FOR FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION CIRCULATION
Preliminary and Confidential, NOT FOR RELEASE

MIGRATION INTO THE STATES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST 1930-1938

By Willard W. Troxell 1/ and W. Paul O'Day 2/

First Draft

Transmitted to Dr. Earl R. Beckner, Director, Labor Relations

Farm Security Administration

(U. S. Department of Agriculture)

Washington, D. C.

with

FOREWORD

By

George B. Herington

Labor Relations Representative
Chief, Migratory Labor Camps
Farm Security Administration, Region XI
Portland, Oregon

This draft is released for confidential circulation among those officers of the Farm Security Administration where active interest in the current migration and its attendant problems may lead to competent criticism and suggestions for consideration in the preparation of the final draft. Such matter, forwarded to Dr. Beckner, will be assembled by him and mailed, with his comment, to the regional offices at Portland, Oregon.

1/ Division of Land Economics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

2/ Statistician, Labor Relations Division, Farm Security Administration.

Terminal Sales Building
Portland, Oregon

May 28, 1940

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MIGRATION INTO THE STATES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST 1940-1942

By William W. Troxell 1/ and W. Paul O'Day 2/

First Draft

Transmitted to Dr. Earl R. Beckner, Director, Labor Relations
Farm Security Administration
(U. S. Department of Agriculture)
Washington, D. C.

with

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By

George B. Hartman

Labor Relations Representative
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Farm Security Administration, Region XI
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2/ Statistician, Labor Relations Division, Farm Security Administration.

Terminal Sales Building
Portland, Oregon

May 24, 1940

FOREWORD

Migration is no new phenomenon to the far western states. Every decade has seen tens of thousands of families moving westward in search of new or better opportunities. But the migration which the attached study has sought to measure is marked off from all previous migrations by two salient facts: the economic distress and disestablished character of the incoming group, and the poverty of opportunities awaiting them upon arrival.

Fleeing from adverse conditions beyond their individual control, a whole cross section of the population of the middle states has moved into a west where opportunities are circumscribed as never before, but where, despite this fact, the chances for adjustment seemed better than in the areas from which they came. The pressure of the incoming group upon job opportunities has not been lessened by any marked absorption of the families upon the land. No more free land exists, and available good land is beyond the reach of the average migrant, due to high initial outlay. The settlement which has taken place has been on marginal and abandoned farms, or on cutover land where no secure way of living may be set up, and where the best that can be hoped for is a substitution of the poverty of transiency for that of rural slum life. A great body of the migration has mixed with the normal casual group of seasonal agricultural workers and has sought to maintain itself by a disastrous sharing of such work as is available. The result has been unsuitably marginal annual earnings. The consequences are as might be expected: a low and miserable standard of living, a lessening of resistance to disease, and a gradual lowering of morale and standards of community living.

Acutely aware of the increasing gravity of the situation, both from the standpoint of the low income settler on the land and the even less secure laborer on the lowest rung of the agricultural ladder, the Farm Security Administration under the leadership of the late Dr. Mercer G. Evans, Director of Labor Relations, Farm Security Administration, opened up in 1938 a wide-spread factual study of agricultural labor and the conditions surrounding it, through a staff assigned from other agencies and among representatives of the Division resident in various regions.

The furtherance of this study in the Pacific Northwest states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho quickly brought to light the need for a measurement of the volume of the movement of distressed families from the drought states, whose numbers were being continually added to the agricultural labor supply to aggravate and intensify the already deplorable conditions obtaining for this group.

No small sampling seemed appropriate as an approach. It was known that there was a normal migratory labor stream which followed a "crop Gypsy" existence along the route of intensive agriculture from Arizona into Northern Washington and Idaho, that this normal supply was being crowded into acute distress by an ever increasing tide of disestablished drought refugees, that both the normal labor supply and the supplemental body of workers were of the family type, where the abuse of poverty, disaster, and disease were shared by the children as well as adults. It thus became apparent that of all members of the incoming group, those with families were the ones to be considered first in such a study, for it is around this group that the problems of restoration and rehabilitation will become involved sooner or later. Having in mind the

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family workers, both new arrival and native, sources of information were reviewed to find one which would provide a sample that would be not only large but well distributed throughout the area and one that would require a minimum of time and money outlay to bring into focus.

To W. Paul O'Day, Statistician of the Farm Security Administration Labor Relations Office, Region XI, was assigned the study and work on the problem. He shortly found that the children enrolled in the public schools who belonged to families newly arrived in their communities could provide the information desired, if the requisite cooperation of school authorities could be obtained. It was found that the public school authorities, faced as they are with many problems arising directly from the influx of children of newcomers, were very anxious to participate in such a study, and readily gave their permission to use the school facilities.

Mr. O'Day worked out the requisite techniques for conducting the survey and handling the data when gathered. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, when advised of the contemplated survey, saw the advantages to be derived from a body of information that would act as a "back-log" or common denominator for the small spot studies they were conducting along the same line, and agreed to furnish considerable clerical help, as well as the services of Mr. Troxell, industrial economist, to assist in the conduct of the survey and to represent the Bureau of Agricultural Economics' interest. As the study would necessarily gather much information on migrants, other than those engaged in agriculture, the National Resources Committee agreed to give some cooperative assistance.

As the study progressed, the results were so gratifying that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, borrowing the method used in this region and with the aid of Mr. O'Day, introduced a similar study in the states of California and Arizona. The material contained in the present study will later be combined with that being tabulated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to present a comprehensive picture of the migrant group for the whole Pacific Coast.

The gathering, coding, transferring to Hollerith punch cards, sorting, and preparation of tables, and writing of the preliminary text has taken approximately sixteen months. It had been hoped to have a report out sooner, but it has been necessary to work with a materially abbreviated force (mostly NYA) for the past seven months, and, in addition, Mr. O'Day's time has been much taken up with the conduct of other studies now in progress and with setting up the statistical methods for handling the data being obtained from the Farm Security Administration Family Labor Camps in the region.

This current research will determine in due course some intelligent answers to the fundamentally and as yet to be clearly determined points: first, the earnings of families engaged in seasonal agricultural labor of various types; second, the division of the available forces of workers among resident mobile labor, mobile migratory specialized labor, and unsettled migrants of both farm background and families turning from other backgrounds to available seasonal agricultural occupations.

From the study certain things stand out:

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From the study certain things stand out:

(1) 90.3 percent of the migration into the three Northwestern states arises in the area north of the parallel Lat. 37° N., which also marks the Kansas-Oklahoma boundary (Table A). This separation along the parallel corresponds roughly to the boundary between two broad agricultural and cropping systems which carry with them economic, historic, social, cultural, and racial differences.

(2) The location by county of 1930 residence of the migrant farmers and farm laborers corresponds with areas of recent drought, crop failure, and mechanization following changing farming practices. The location of families of all occupational groups, however, shows that the forces of displacement acted over a much wider area than that represented by the agricultural group and spread their intensity close to the larger cities.

(3) The large number of children of all ages accompanying the migration emphasizes the need for action designed to make the adjustments of these children as easy as possible, and to facilitate their obtaining an equal share of the school and social opportunities enjoyed by the children of resident parents. Data gathered on the employment of children of the enumerated families in agricultural and other work is not included in this report, as it is felt that the analysis of this belongs with a future release devoted to mobility.

(4) There is a large number of families whose sphere of movement is confined to the Pacific Coast and whose characteristics, occupational and otherwise, differ somewhat from those of the drought migrants. The movement of these families is of special interest in relation to the highly seasonal character of a large percentage of the industries in the Northwest and deserves special analysis at a later date.

(5) The measurement of family size and of the child count is important. These children growing up under conditions of economic distress may be expected to measure in their future responsibility to the public as citizens the degree of that responsibility assumed for them in the natural and rational functioning by the Commonwealth. Here are problems of education, housing, and clothing.

There would seem to be in the three states an already present group of farm raised and farm thinking people, disestablished in the main by Nature's hand, who not only need new land for homes and occupation that they may carry on, support themselves, but that they may under natural conditions of family rearing responsibility, respond to that rehabilitation which may conceivably be made available with new conditioned lands and rational financial aid in so re-establishing themselves, or they may become wasted elements of our population. Of these families there is an exact recent location file available.

(6) In most large, irrigated areas there is a dearth of industrial and winter labor work. An excess idle population, involuntarily idle, in winter months characterizes those areas where specialty crops in the spring, summer, and fall activities demand large groups of occasional or seasonal farm laborers of low, painfully low, resulting annual income. In all of these, the presence of increasing rural slums and low-income living conditions present a growing problem pressing for correction. These

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Of this latter item, we will know more accurately by large sampling now being undertaken by the Farm Security Administration, Labor Relations Division, in these three states and elsewhere in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Again, we will shortly be in a position to know the relative proportion of emigrants, normal migrants, and the somewhat local but mobile groups of agricultural labor, along with the family characteristics, through an accurate and high percentage sampling and its accompanying detail covering family size, origin, and former occupation, through data now being developed and generated out of information being obtained on registration of families in the mobile and standard farm family labor camps now in operation in Region XI, Region IX, and elsewhere. Along with these will come data on annual earnings and idle time, being surveyed through a 10% to 30% weekly sampling process.

In Region XI, current close working relationship with the Farm Placement and State Employment Services will offer further data now in process of collection. We already know in each of the crop areas, the planting patterns and the monthly demand by each crop, the per acre requirements of the labor need, and the supply in resident and hired labor. In due course, this related collective data may be integrated so as to give a more completed whole picture than has heretofore been available.

Respectfully submitted,

George B. Herington

George B. Herington
Labor Relations Representative
Chief, Migratory Labor Camps, Region XI

NOTE:

The appendix dealing with the methodology of estimating coverage is not included with this preliminary release. Some tables and text matter have been added by Mr. O'Day which, because of the pressure of time, have not been submitted to Mr. McEntire and Mr. Troxell for review. The added tables have been indicated by an asterisk and the un-reviewed text by colons along the margin.

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George B. Herrington
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Table A - Families Enumerated Who Entered the Pacific Northwest Region by 1930 Residence North and South of Parallel Latitude 37° North (boundary between Arkansas and Missouri; Kansas, Colorado, Utah and Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas)

Total	30,095		100.0	
North of Parallel	27,183	100.0	~~90.3~~	88.9
California	4,490	16.5		
Utah	1,042	3.8		
~~Arizona~~	~~300~~	~~1.1~~		
Nevada	116	.4		
Nebraska	2,954	10.9		
North Dakota	2,411	8.9		
Montana	2,299	8.5		
South Dakota	2,146	7.9		
Wyoming	733	2.7		
Kansas	2,096	7.7		
Colorado	1,630	6.0		
Minnesota	1,332	4.9		
Missouri	1,248	4.6		
Iowa	1,112	4.1		
Illinois	695	2.6		
Wisconsin	607	2.2		
Michigan	490	1.8		
Ohio	240	0.9		
Indiana	236	.9		
~~Tennessee~~	~~92~~	~~.3~~		
Kentucky	87	.3		
Virginia	67	.2		
New York	260	1.0		
Pennsylvania	173	.6		
Massachusetts	69	.2		
New Jersey	57	.2		
West Virginia	54	.2		
District of Columbia	36	.1		
Maryland	35	.1		
Maine	27	.1		
Connecticut	21	.1		
Rhode Island	9			
New Hampshire	7			
Vermont	7			
Delaware	5			

Table A - Continued

South of Parallel	2,912	100.0	9.7	11.1
Oklahoma	1,369	47.0		
Texas	551	18.9		
New Mexico	164	5.6		
Arkansas	470	16.2		
Louisiana	51	1.8		
Mississippi	45	1.5		
North Carolina	97	3.3		
Florida	74	2.5		
Georgia	43	1.5		
Alabama	34	1.2		
South Carolina	14	.5		
Arizona	300	1.1		
Tennessee	92	.3		

MIGRATION INTO THE STATES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, 1930-1938.

-by- Willard W. Troxell and W. Paul O'Day

(First Draft, May 1, 1940)

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Families Enumerated in the Northwest Migration Survey

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Families enumerated in the Northwest Migration Survey

*New

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The following tables, mentioned in the text, are omitted as they were not received from Mr. Troxell:

Table 7 - Distribution of Migrants by Area of Present Settlement

Table 7a - Distribution of Migrants by Area of Present Settlement

Table 7b - Distribution of Migrants by Area of Present Settlement

Table 7c - Distribution of Migrants by Area of Present Settlement

MIGRATION INTO THE STATES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, 1930 - 1938.

By - Willard W. Troxell 1/ and W. Paul O'Day 2/

I - INTRODUCTION

The "migrant problem" in the Pacific Coast States in recent years has been widely discussed. Early in the depression the evident distress of thousands of newcomers in this area led to appeals to public agencies for aid. Several Federal and state organizations have dealt with various aspects of the problem, but the question of "what to do about the migrants" has remained a subject of debate. Recognizing the need for information on which to base broad policies for aiding the settlement and rehabilitation of these people, several agencies under the leadership of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics have undertaken a comprehensive study of the migrant problem as a whole.

As a part of this larger study, a migration survey was made in the Northwest 3/ in the spring of 1939. The survey in the Northwest was a joint enterprise of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Farm Security Administration, 4/ with the cooperation of the public school authorities of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Its

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1/ Division of Land Economics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
2/ Labor Relations Division, Region XI, Farm Security Administration.
3/ "The Northwest" in this report refers to Washington, Oregon, and Idaho only.
4/ Davis McEntire, Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and George B. Herington, Labor Relations Representative, Region XI, Farm Security Administration, were in general charge of the project. The authors are indebted to Seymour J. Janow, Division of Farm Population and Rural Welfare, for advice and help in preparation of the report.

principal purpose was to provide measures of the size and character of the interstate migrations that have taken place since 1929. This report is a presentation of the facts disclosed by the survey; recommended policies will be discussed in other reports in the light of these and other findings of the study.

The data were obtained from a simple questionnaire filled out by school children belonging to families that had moved into the state since 1929. 1/ The returned questionnaires were matched into family groups, and the family was used as the unit for tabulation of the data. The sample, comparing over 45,000 families, covers both urban and rural areas in all parts of the Northwest. Schools representing approximately 80 percent of the total public school enrollment of these three states cooperated in the study.

By selecting the families by the sole criterion of entrance into the state after 1929, the survey included families from a wide range of the economic and social scale. In 1939, a majority of these families had been living in one county long enough to be considered settled residents, hence the word "migrants", which is frequently interpreted to mean migratory agricultural workers, is a misnomer when applied to them. When speaking of the movement of these families, however, the word "migrant" has been used as a convenient label to designate the group that moved.

The method of collecting the information limited the sample to families having children in school, hence it is not representative

1/ The methodology is described in Appendix A.

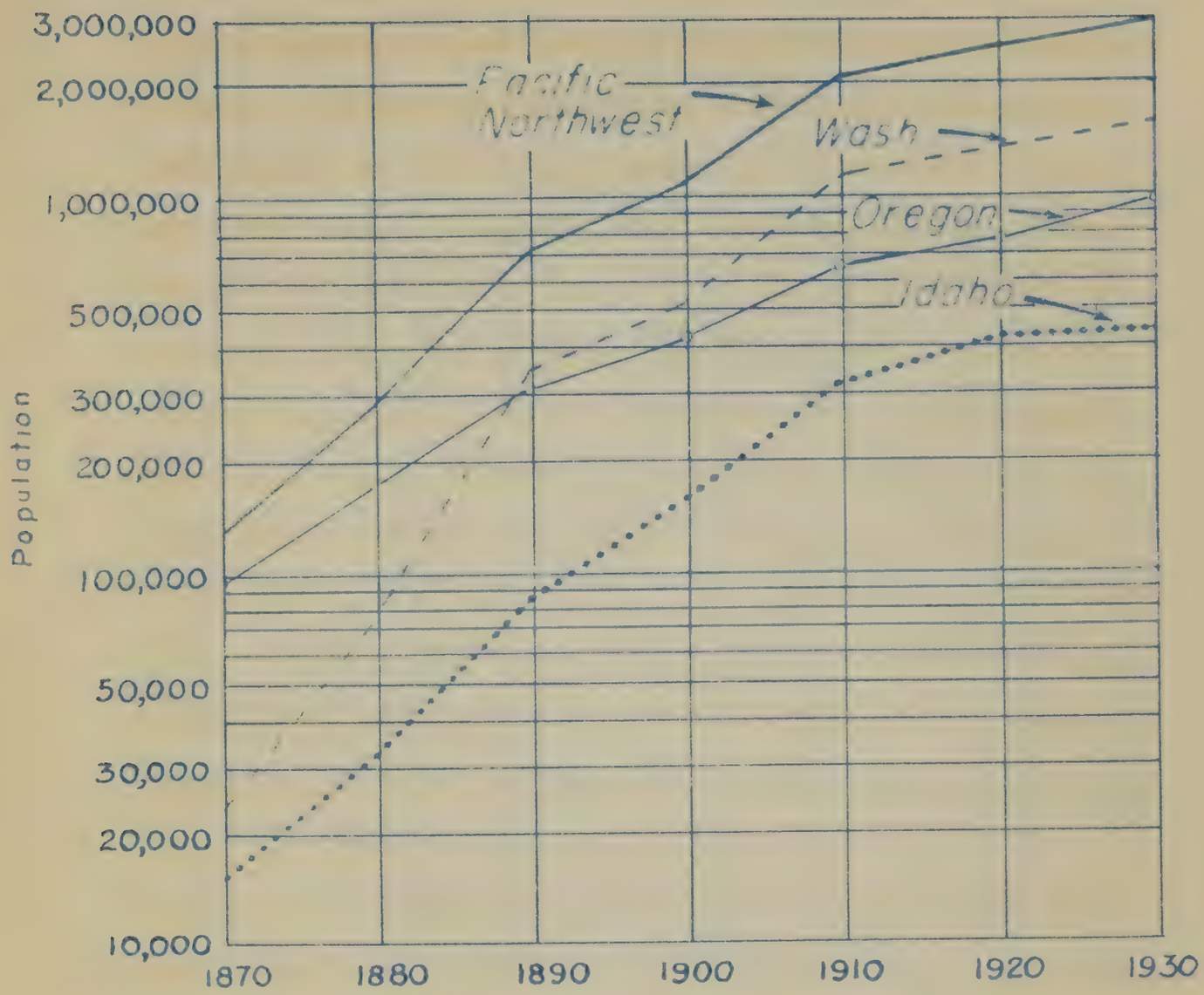
of all new families with respect to size or age. The data do, however, provide a basis for estimates of the total inward migration, and show the sources and time of the migration, the geographical distribution of the group that moved into these states after 1929, and the occupational patterns before and after moving.

II - THE VOLUME OF MIGRATION

The population of the Northwest has been built up by a continuous stream of migration since early in the last century. Between 1870 and 1910 the population doubled, on the average, every ten years. From 1910 to 1930 growth was at a much slower rate, averaging 18 percent per decade, (Fig. 1). In 1930 only 44 percent of the inhabitants of the Northwest had been born in the region, and these natives were mostly in the younger age brackets. Most of the men who cleared the farms and built the homes and factories of the Northwest were "migrants" at some time or other.

The earlier migrants found plenty of opportunities to make a living. Land was available and there was work to be found in the forests and towns of a region of expanding activity. In contrast, the influx of the 1930's was attended by widespread distress, but, indeed, the distress was not confined to the newcomers. There were not enough jobs to employ all the jobseekers, nor farms available within the means of all who wished to settle on the land. It is pertinent, therefore, to inquire whether or not the troubles attending the migration of the 30's may have been due to an enormously increased influx of people. The answer appears to be that the recent migration has not been unusually large as compared with those of the past.

Direct measures of past migrations do not exist; they can only be inferred from Census data. By balancing the population



[illegible] per decade from 187[illegible] to 1910,
[illegible] 1930 the increase was 18[illegible] per decade

Figure 1 - GROWTH OF POPULATION IN THE NORTHWEST

gain in an intercensal period against births and losses from death, the excess of the in-movement over the out-movement can be calculated. For comparison with estimates of the 1930-38 migration derived from the survey data, however, it is necessary to arrive at a figure which represents the number of persons who moved into the area and survived until the end of the period. A rough estimate of surviving migrants in the three northwest states for the 1920-30 decade has been made, based on two assumptions, (1) that the number of natives of the state who returned to it was negligible in comparison to the number leaving, and (2) that the ratio of non-natives to natives in the emigrant group was the same as in the state population. Details of these estimates and a discussion of the assumptions are set forth in Appendix D. The estimates indicate that approximately 635,000 persons who were living in Oregon, Washington and Idaho in 1930 had moved into their respective states during the preceding decade, and about 441,000 of them had come from outside of the Northwest (Table 1). The net gain from migration in this period was about 154,000 (Table D-7, Appendix D). 1/

To estimate the migration of the post-1930 period, we start

1/ The net migration estimates agree fairly well, state by state, with the figures given in "Preliminary Analysis of Population Data, Pacific Northwest States," by James E. Maxwell, Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Portland, Oregon. Migration estimates for Oregon are also given in "Migration into Oregon, 1930-1937," by V. B. Stanbery, Oregon State Planning Board. In so far as Stanbery's report and the Northwest migration survey covered the same ground, the two are in substantial agreement on the main features of the post-1930 migration.

Table 1 - Estimated number of persons who moved into Washington state, 1920 - 1930, and 1930 - 1940.

State	Number	Percent of 1920	Number	Percent of 1930
Washington	215,000	23	250,000	27
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1/ Excluding migration from states to states within the area.

with the 45,211 families enumerated in the survey. The survey did not, however, reach all that were eligible for inclusion, because a number of schools did not cooperate, and in the others some of the eligible pupils failed to respond. It is estimated (in Appendix B) that the enumerated families represented approximately 63 percent of all that were eligible for inclusion; hence it appears probable that there were in the Northwest in the spring of 1939 some 72,000 families that had entered their states after 1929 and had children in the public schools at the time of the survey.

In addition, there were unknown numbers of unattached single persons and families without school children. To estimate these, recourse must be had to some assumptions as to the composition of the migrant group, because there are available no sample studies covering a complete cross-section of this group. It seems reasonable to assume that the proportion of school children in the migrant group is about the same as in the population of the areas from which these people came. 1/ Support for this assumption is found in a study by the Farm Security Administration of the migrant families in California who received grants in 1938. 2/ In the 6,655 households studied by the Farm Security Administration, children of school age (5 to 19 years) were 32 percent of the total, which was the same as the average percentage of children in the total population of the states from which these households

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1/ The estimates and discussion of the assumptions are presented in Appendix C.

2/ A Study of 6,655 Migrant Households in California, Farm Security Administration.

[illegible]

However, [illegible] of adequate diet and cooperation, because [illegible] of all which was [illegible] for medical [illegible] that [illegible] in the child [illegible].

In addition, [illegible] parents [illegible] the right [illegible] conditions [illegible] found in [illegible] from which [illegible] found in [illegible] 1/ [illegible] 2/ [illegible] 3/ [illegible] 4/ which [illegible] population of [illegible]

1/ [illegible] tions and discussion of the [illegible] in [illegible] ix 0.

came. This sample of migrants is not necessarily representative of the group moving to the Northwest, but the fact that the assumption does hold for the California sample gives some confidence in its validity.

On this basis it is calculated that approximately 595,000 persons had come into the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho after 1930 and were still living there in the spring of 1939. Of these people, about 465,000 had come from outside of the Northwest, the others having moved from state to state within the area. Table 1 shows state-by-state comparisons of the 1920-30 and 1930-39 estimated migrations. The figures indicate that the post-1930 movement into Washington and Oregon was somewhat smaller, and into Idaho was somewhat greater, than that of the preceding decade. The number of persons moving out of these states in this period is not known.

The calculated migration into the Northwest in a period of a little over nine years from 1930 to early 1939, 465,000 persons, is very little more than the 441,000 estimated as moving into the area in the ten-year period 1920 to 1930. These estimates are to be considered as rough measures only, but they serve to indicate that the migration was of approximately the same magnitude in the 30's as during the preceding decade. The extremely rapid rate of population growth prior to 1910 (Fig. 1) shows that earlier migrations were very much greater.

III - SOURCES OF THE MIGRATION

There are two principal facts revealed by the residence date of the survey. One is the large movement from state to state within the Northwest and the other is the large numbers moving to the Northwest from the Great Plains,1/ particularly the northern portion. The latter is not surprising, since the Plains have always contributed heavily to the northwestward movement and the "drought refugees" have been familiar figures in the Northwest in recent years.

One quarter of the enumerated families were living in the Northwest in 1930 and subsequently moved to other states in the area, or out and back again to the same state (Table 2). The interchanges of population between these three states resulted in gains for Washington and Oregon at the expense of Idaho. In proportion to its population, Idaho contributed much more to this intra-regional movement than the other two states did.

There was also a large interchange between California and the Northwest. More of the families studied came from California than from any other state in the Union. Preliminary samples of the California migration survey and the California border count

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1/ For convenience in analysis, the states have been grouped into regions, the boundaries of which are somewhat arbitrary. The regional designations cover all of the states listed under them in Table 2. Thus in speaking of the "Great Plains" it is intended to include all of the states listed under that name and not simply the geographic region usually called the Great Plains. The "Pacific Coast" includes California, Oregon and Washington and Idaho.

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Table 2.—Families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey, by regions and states of residence in January, 1930, by states of residence in 1939. a/

Region and state of residence in January, 1930.	Residence in 1939				
	Total 3 states		Washington	Oregon	Idaho
	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
All cases	45,211		18,997	19,421	6,793
Residence known	42,049	100.0	18,304	17,178	6,567
Northwestern states	10,607	25.2	4,727	4,327	1,553
Washington	4,267	10.1	762	2,729	776
Oregon	3,493	8.3	2,473	582	438
Idaho	2,847	6.8	1,492	1,016	339
California	4,490	10.7	1,777	2,360	353
Southwestern states	1,458	3.5	297	418	743
Utah	1,042	2.5	173	214	635
Arizona	300	0.7	94	155	51
Nevada	116	0.3	30	49	37
Northern Great Plains	10,543	25.0	4,744	3,909	1,890
Nebraska	2,954	7.0	896	1,354	704
North Dakota	2,411	5.7	1,354	825	232
Montana	2,299	5.5	1,293	568	438
South Dakota	2,146	5.1	946	926	274
Wyoming	733	1.7	255	236	242
Southern Great Plains	5,810	13.8	2,073	2,709	1,028
Kansas	2,096	5.0	728	961	407
Colorado	1,630	3.9	583	725	322
Oklahoma	1,369	3.2	505	666	198
Texas	551	1.3	207	268	76
New Mexico	164	0.4	50	89	25
North Central States	5,960	14.2	2,898	2,372	690
Minnesota	1,332	3.2	729	518	85
Missouri	1,248	3.0	533	435	280
Iowa	1,112	2.6	465	498	149
Illinois	695	1.6	345	281	69
Wisconsin	607	1.4	334	245	28
Michigan	490	1.2	264	185	41
Ohio	240	0.6	121	100	19
Indiana	236	0.6	107	110	19

Region and state of residence in January, 1930:	Residence in 1929				
	Total 3 states		Washington	Oregon	Idaho
	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
All cases	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]					
[illegible]					
Oregon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Idaho	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]					
Southwestern states	[illegible]	[illegible]	297	428	742
[illegible]					
Arizona	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nevada	416	[illegible]	30	43	37
Northern Great Plains	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,890
[illegible]					
North Dakota	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
South Dakota	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wyoming	[illegible]	[illegible]	235	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southern Great Plains	[illegible]	13.8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kansas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colorado	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oklahoma	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	108
Texas	[illegible]	[illegible]	207	[illegible]	[illegible]
New Mexico	144	[illegible]	50	[illegible]	[illegible]
North Central States	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Minnesota	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Missouri	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Iowa	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Illinois	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wisconsin	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Michigan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ohio	[illegible]	[illegible]	124	[illegible]	[illegible]

Table 2 Continued. (page 2 of 2 pages)

Region and state of residence in January 1930.	Residence in 1939				
	Total, 3 states		Washington	Oregon	Idaho
	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
South Central states.	575	1.4	241	226	108
Arkansas.....	479	1.2	198	181	100
Louisiana.....	51	0.1	22	25	4
Mississippi.....	45	0.1	21	20	4
Southeastern states..	508	1.2	296	152	60
North Carolina...	97	0.2	73	14	10
Tennessee.....	92	0.2	33	44	15
Kentucky.....	87	0.2	55	24	8
Florida.....	74	0.2	39	25	10
Virginia.....	67	0.2	43	15	9
Georgia.....	43	0.1	30	10	3
Alabama.....	34	0.1	18	15	1
South Carolina...	14	b/	5	5	4
Northeastern states..	760	1.8	392	315	53
New York.....	260	0.6	124	117	19
Pennsylvania.....	173	0.4	96	66	11
Massachusetts....	69	0.2	38	28	3
New Jersey.....	57	0.1	36	17	4
West Virginia....	54	0.1	24	24	6
District of Col..	36	0.1	14	19	3
Maryland.....	35	0.1	18	13	4
Maine.....	27	0.1	17	9	1
Connecticut.....	21	0.1	11	10	0
Rhode Island.....	9	b/	2	5	2
New Hampshire....	7	b/	4	3	0
Vermont.....	7	b/	4	3	0
Delaware.....	5	b/	4	1	0
Overseas & Foreign...	1338	3.2	859	390	89
Canada.....	819	2.0	544	214	61
Alaska.....	183	0.4	143	33	7
Europe.....	120	0.3	71	41	8
China.....	61	0.1	19	39	3
Hawaiian Islands.	54	0.1	29	20	5
Japan.....	34	0.1	19	14	1
Philippine Islands	20	0.1	12	8	0
Other Countries..	47	0.1	22	21	4
Unknown.....	3162		693	2243 c/	226

a/ For families in which the oldest responding child was born after 1930, the actual place of residence in 1930 could not be determined. In such cases, the 1930 residence was taken to be the birthplace of the oldest responding child.

b/ Less than 0.1 percent.

c/ The initial questionnaire, which was used in some of the Oregon counties did not ask for years of residence in the various states; hence in many cases the location of 1930 residence could not be determined.

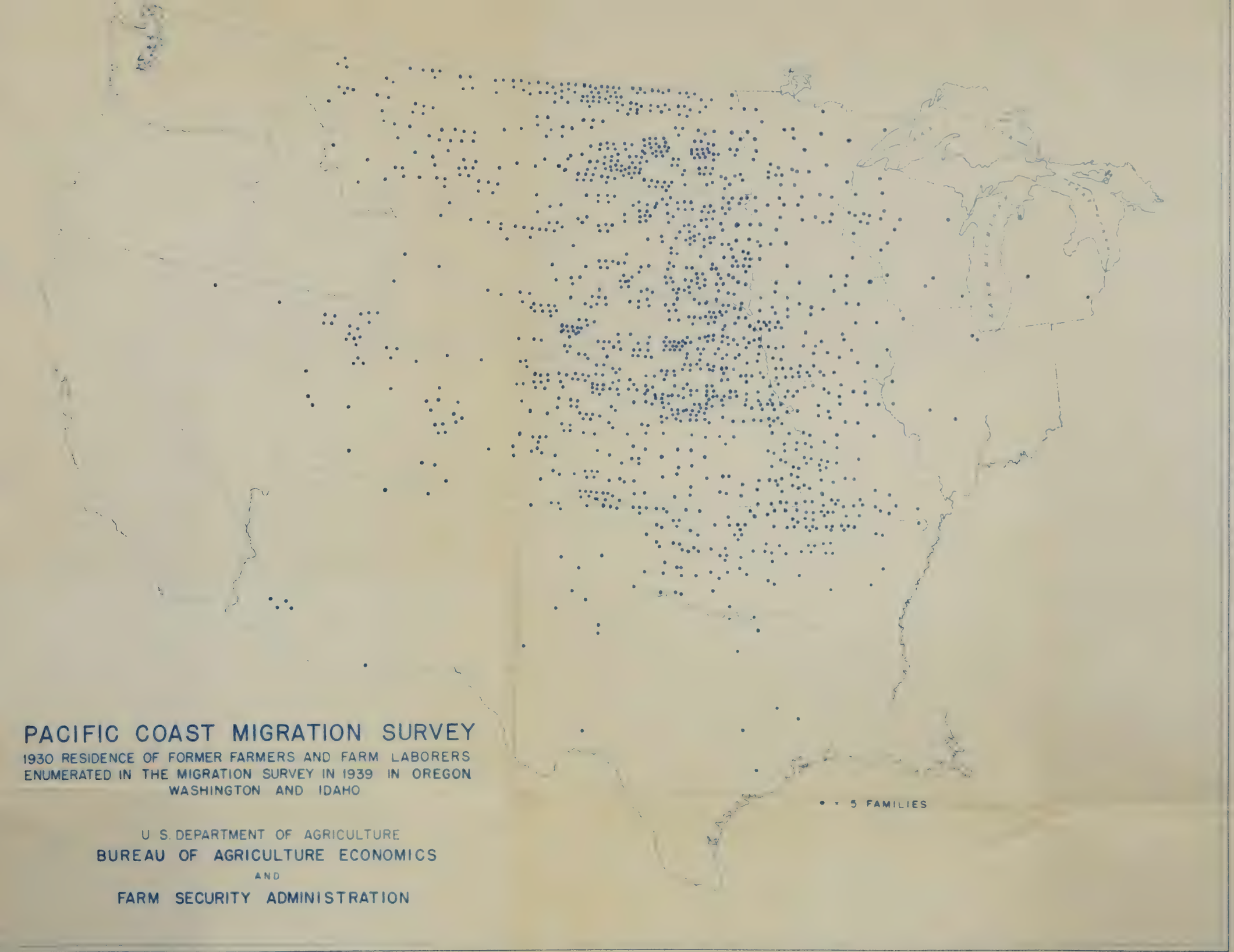
	Total, 3 stations		Washington		Oregon		Idaho	
North Central states	275	0.4	241		220		1[illegible]	
Arkansas	4[illegible]	0.2	1[illegible]		[illegible]		1[illegible]	
Louisiana	71	0.1	22		[illegible]		4	
Mississippi	45	0.1	21		20		4	
Southeastern states	706	1.2	2[illegible]		1[illegible]		60	
North Carolina	97	0.2	73		11		1[illegible]	
Tennessee	[illegible]	0.2	32		44		1[illegible]	
Kentucky	[illegible]	0.2	[illegible]		[illegible]		8	
Florida	[illegible]	0.1	30		[illegible]		10	
Virginia	97	0.2	43		46		9	
Georgia	43	0.1	30		10		3	
Alabama	24	0.1	18		15		1	
South Carolina	14		5		5		4	
Northeastern states	[illegible]	1.5	[illegible]		2[illegible]		[illegible]	
New York	[illegible]	0.6	14		117		14	
Pennsylvania	123	0.4	[illegible]		[illegible]		11	
[illegible]	[illegible]	0.2	32		[illegible]		[illegible]	
New Jersey	97	0.1	30		1[illegible]		[illegible]	
West Virginia	[illegible]	0.1	[illegible]		24		[illegible]	
District of Col.	[illegible]	0.1	14		1		[illegible]	
Maryland	30	0.1	14		11		4	
Indiana	20	0.1	17		[illegible]		1	
Connecticut	21	0.1	11		10		[illegible]	
Rhode Island	9	0	2		[illegible]		[illegible]	
New Hampshire	7	0	[illegible]		3		0	
Vermont	7	0	4		3		0	
Delaware	[illegible]	0	4		1		0	
Unknown & foreign	1255	2.2	930		300		40	
Canada	[illegible]	0.0	24		24		[illegible]	
Japan	1[illegible]	0.4	142		35		7	
Europe	120	0.3	71		41		[illegible]	
Other	21	0.1	10		39		3	
Southern Latin America	24	0.1	22		20		[illegible]	
Africa	24	0.1	1[illegible]		14		1	
Australasia	20	0.1	12		8		0	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]	
Total	3[illegible]2		[illegible]		4[illegible]3		[illegible]	

both show large numbers moving southward from Oregon and Washington.1/

Next to the Pacific Coast region the Great Plains States were the principal sources of migration. The Pacific Northwest has drawn large numbers from the Northern part of the Plains, but relatively few from the southern part. This is in marked contrast to the situation in California, where Oklahoma and Texas were the most important sources. This is not so much a matter of preference as of geography, as is illustrated by the fact that among those families who entered the Pacific Northwest by way of California the relative importance of the Northern Great Plains and the Southern Great Plains is reversed. Of those who entered the Pacific Northwest region direct or through adjoining states (other than California) 39.1 percent came from the Northern Great Plains states, and 21.6 percent from the Southern Great Plains states. On the other hand, those who entered by way of California show 21.2 percent as originating in the Northern Great Plains states and 28.6 percent in the Southern Great Plains states. The quest of impoverished opportunity seekers follows the mathematics of the pocket book, where the straight line is not only the shortest distance between two points but the cheapest and often the only permissible line.

The map (Fig. 2) shows the 1930 residence of the enumerated families who lived west of the Mississippi River and Ohio. It indicates large numbers in Nebraska, the Dakotas and Montana, and, more strikingly, concentrations in and around the large cities. Clusters of dots mark the Salt Lake area, Denver, Omaha, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Duluth, Chicago, and Detroit.

1/ "Recent Migration to the Pacific Coast" by Davis McEntire and N. L. Whetten. Land Policy Review, September - October, 1939.


PACIFIC COAST MIGRATION SURVEY
1930 RESIDENCE OF FORMER FARMERS AND FARM LABORERS
ENUMERATED IN THE MIGRATION SURVEY IN 1939 IN OREGON
WASHINGTON AND IDAHO
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE ECONOMICS
AND
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
• = 5 FAMILIES

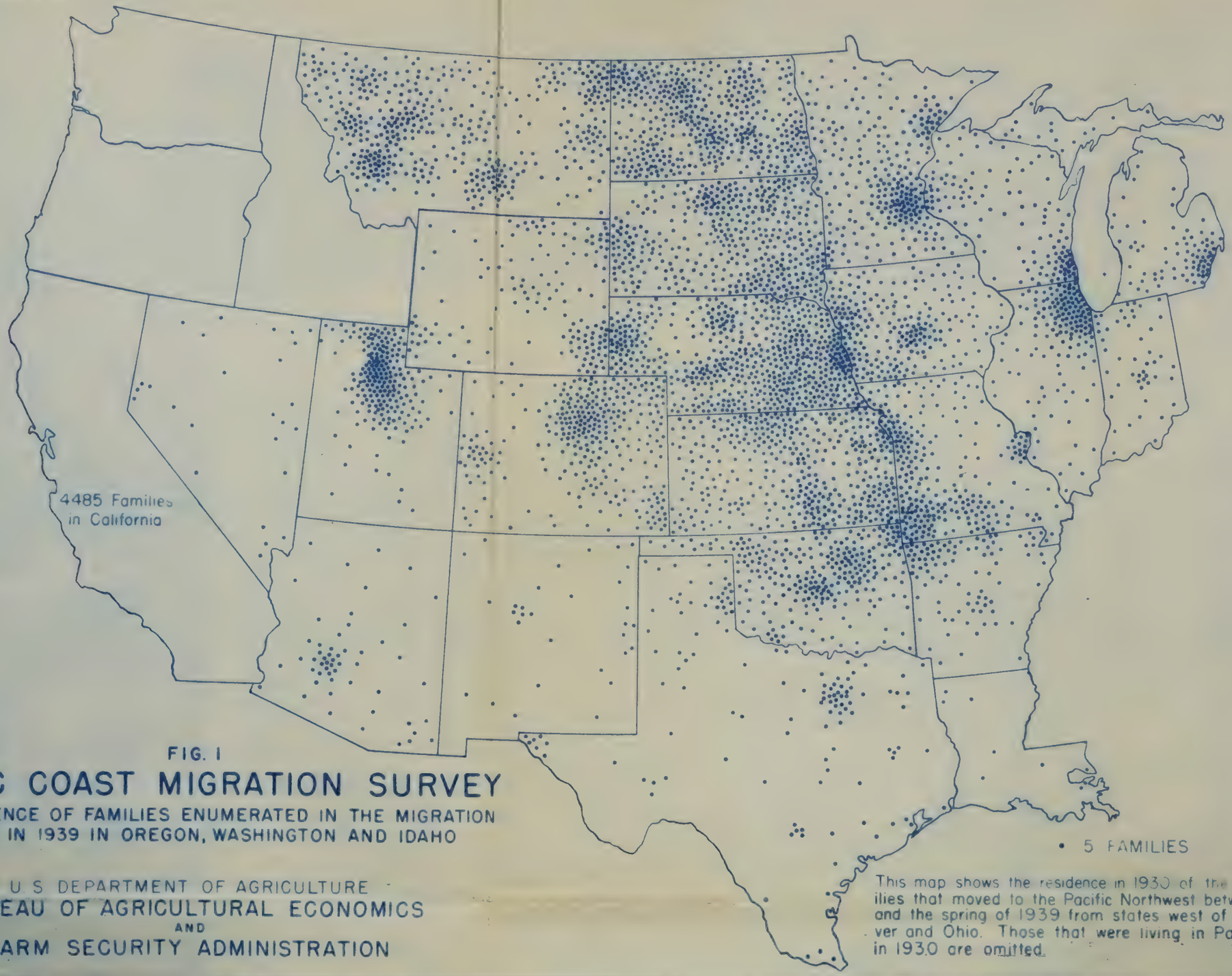


FIG. I

PACIFIC COAST MIGRATION SURVEY

1930 RESIDENCE OF FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE MIGRATION SURVEY IN 1939 IN OREGON, WASHINGTON AND IDAHO

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
AND
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

This map shows the residence in 1930 of the enumerated families that moved to the Pacific Northwest between Jan. 1, 1930 and the spring of 1939 from states west of the Mississippi River and Ohio. Those that were living in Pacific Coast States in 1930 are omitted.

In general the Northwest states drew larger numbers from nearby areas than from more distant ones. The most important sources for Washington were Oregon, California, Idaho, North Dakota, and Montana, in the order named; for Oregon they were Washington, California, Nebraska, Idaho, and Kansas; and for Idaho they were Washington, Nebraska, Utah, Oregon, and Montana. Less than one-tenth of the families came from east of the Mississippi River. Foreign countries were not an important source of migration, although there were a considerable number of Canadians, especially in the group moving into Washington.1/

Seventy percent of the families moved directly from their states of 1930 residence to the states where they were living at the time of the survey. However, approximately 85 percent moved directly into the Northwest region from their regions of former residence. Considering only the migrants whose 1930 residence was other than Washington, Oregon, Idaho, or California, the number of interstate moves was related in part to the initial adjustment period before final settlement. Seven percent of the families moved one or more times within the Pacific states after arrival. (Table 4.) Thus, a majority of the families from even the most distant regions made only one move. The others made intermediate moves in various directions, following no well-defined pattern, but showing some tendency to concentrate in the states close to their final destinations. This can be seen from a comparison of the percentage distribution in Table 4, which shows states of residence just before the last move, with Table 2 which gives

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1/ It is likely that many of those from foreign countries were American citizens returning to their homeland.

Table 3. - Percentage distribution of families enumerated in Northwest migration survey, by number of interstate moves after 1930, by regions of residence in 1930. a/

Region of 1930 residence	Number of interstate moves				
	All Cases	One	Two	Three or more	Unknown
All regions	100	70	21	6	3
Pacific Coast	100	71	21	5	3
Southwestern	100	70	20	7	3
Northern Great Plains	100	75	18	5	2
Southern Great Plains	100	65	24	8	3
North Central	100	67	22	8	3
South Central	100	63	24	10	3
Southeastern	100	59	25	13	3
Northeastern	100	57	28	12	3
Overseas and foreign	100	76	16	5	3

a/ A "move" into a state was not counted unless the family lived there six months or more.

Table 3. - Percentage distribution of families compared in demographic characteristics, by number of times moved, 1940, by regions of residence in 1935. 1/

Region of 1935 residence	Number of times moved				
	All cases	One	Two	Three or more	Unknown
All regions	100	70	21	6	3
Pacific Coast	100	71	21	5	3
Southwestern	100	70	20	7	3
Northern Great Plains	100	76	12	5	4
Southern Great Plains	100	65	24	8	3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
South Central	100	63	24	10	3
Central Western	100	69	24	13	3
Northeastern	100	67	28	4	3
Overseas and Foreign	100	76	14	5	3

1/ A "move" into a single area not counted unless the family lived there six months or more.

Table 4,—Families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey, by regions and states of last residence before entering states in which they were living in 1939, by states of residence in 1939.

Region and state of last residence	Residence in 1939				
	Total, 3 states		Washington	Oregon	Idaho
	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
All cases	45,211		18,997	19,421	6,793
Residence known	39,631	100.0	17,431	15,953	6,247
Northwestern states	10,203	25.8	4,667	4,114	1,422
Washington	3,885	9.8	***	3,015	870
Oregon	3,486	8.8	2,934	***	552
Idaho	2,832	7.2	1,733	1,099	***
California	4,985	12.5	1,937	2,611	437
Southwestern states	1,530	3.9	333	412	785
Utah	1,003	2.5	158	177	668
Arizona	299	0.8	100	162	37
Nevada	228	0.6	75	73	80
Northern Great Plains	9,743	24.5	4,440	3,523	1,780
Nebraska	2,613	6.6	771	1,213	629
North Dekota	2,160	5.4	1,224	724	212
Montana	2,347	5.9	1,369	540	438
South Dakota	1,912	4.8	846	824	242
Wyoming	711	1.8	230	222	259
Southern Great Plains	5,068	12.8	1,829	2,304	935
Kansas	1,782	4.5	612	818	352
Colorado	1,524	3.9	541	664	319
Oklahoma	1,119	2.8	423	516	180
Texas	473	1.2	204	215	54
New Mexico	170	0.4	49	91	30
North Central States	5,236	13.2	2,570	2,067	599
Minnesota	1,223	3.1	685	471	67
Missouri	1,094	2.8	449	387	258
Iowa	962	2.4	410	422	130
Illinois	592	1.5	300	238	54
Wisconsin	557	1.4	308	229	20
Michigan	393	1.0	207	150	36
Ohio	215	0.5	108	92	15
Indiana	200	0.5	103	78	19

Foreign and equals of Iran residence	Total	Iranian	Other
Residence [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Northwestern states	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Washington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oregon	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southwestern states	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Utah	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Arizona	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nevada	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Montana	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
South Dakota	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wyoming	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nebraska	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colorado	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Table 4 Continued. (Page 2 of 2 pages)

Region and state of last residence	Residence in 1939				
	Total, 3 states		Washington	Oregon	Idaho
	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
South Central states.	506	1.3	210	187	109
Arkansas.....	428	1.1	178	152	98
Louisiana.....	40	0.1	17	19	4
Mississippi.....	38	0.1	15	16	7
Southeastern states..	422	1.1	243	125	54
North Carolina...	91	0.2	64	13	14
Tennessee.....	82	0.2	39	31	12
Kentucky.....	74	0.2	45	19	10
Florida.....	56	0.2	31	19	6
Virginia.....	46	0.1	27	14	5
Georgia.....	35	0.1	22	10	3
Alabama.....	26	0.1	12	13	1
South Carolina...	12	a/	3	6	3
Northeastern states..	637	1.6	323	264	50
New York.....	223	0.6	106	101	16
Pennsylvania.....	145	0.4	81	49	15
Massachusetts....	54	0.1	28	23	3
New Jersey.....	45	0.1	26	16	3
West Virginia....	59	0.2	30	23	6
District of Col..	25	0.1	8	14	3
Maryland.....	28	0.1	15	12	1
Maine.....	19	a/	11	6	2
Connecticut.....	18	a/	7	11	0
Rhode Island.....	5	a/	2	2	1
New Hampshire....	6	a/	3	3	0
Vermont.....	6	a/	2	4	0
Delaware.....	4	a/	4	0	0
Overseas and Foreign.	1,301	3.3	879	346	76
Canada.....	780	2.0	543	177	60
Alaska.....	201	0.5	166	30	5
Europe.....	113	0.3	65	43	5
China.....	61	0.2	19	40	2
Hawaii.....	48	0.1	31	15	2
Japan.....	43	0.1	26	17	0
Phillipines.....	15	a/	8	7	0
Other Countries...	40	0.1	21	17	2
Unknown.....	5,580		1,566	3,468 b/	546

a/ Less than 0.1 percent

b/ See footnote c/ Table 3

Table 4 - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY
BY MONTHS OF 1930 RESIDENCE
BY REGIONS OF LAST RESIDENCE

Origin Outside Pacific States

Region of 1930 Residence	Total Known 1930 Res.	Known 1930 & Last Res.	Number Last Res. Same as 1930 Res.	Percent	Last Res. Pacific Northwest	Percent of 1930 Families*	Last Res. California	Percent of 1930 Families*
Totals	26952	25426	21487	84.5	1269	5.0	747	2.9
Region II Southwestern	1458	1371	1121	81.7	76	5.5	81	5.9
Region III Northern Great Plains	10542	10177	8925	87.6	566	5.6	158	1.6
Region IV Southern Great Plains	5810	5394	4495	83.3	240	4.4	214	4.0
Region V South Central	575	520	392	75.4	18	3.5	23	5.9
Region VI North Central	5961	5564	4594	82.6	249	4.5	165	3.0
Region VII Southeastern	508	442	344	77.8	12	2.7	21	4.8
Region VIII Northeastern	760	675	513	76.0	31	4.6	44	6.5
Region IX Foreign Countries	1338	1283	1103	86.0	77	6.0	41	3.2
Unknown	-	-	1526					

* Last Residence Known

1930 residence. A few families moved into California before going to the Northwest, but the evidence does not support the idea that the inflow into the Northwest has been in large part the backwash of a heavy California-bound movement.

Distance did not seem to play as important a part in determining the number of moves as did the route necessary for arrival. Important as a factor in the number of moves was the occupational character of the migrants. Professional workers made the greatest number of moves, 36.5 percent of their number made more than one move. 33 percent of the owners and managers and 28 percent of the clerks and unskilled migrants crossed state lines more than once. A little over one-fourth of the skilled and semi-skilled workers, and, surprisingly enough, only 18 percent of the agricultural workers made two moves or more.

IV - TIMING OF THE MIGRATION

The movement to the Northwest reached a peak in 1936 and 1937, as is indicated by the graph in Figure 3. More of the families enumerated in Washington arrived in 1937 than in any other year, while for Oregon and Idaho the peak year was 1936 (Table 5). In all three states there was a sharp reduction in the incoming movement in 1938. Large volume in 1936 and 1937 followed by a sharp reduction in 1938 characterized the entire westward migration, the movement into California showing the same features. 1/ The droughts of 1934 and 1936 followed by a return to normal rainfall in the plains were probably the underlying cause, but the movement was not limited to farm families.

There was a marked difference between the timing of the migration from the Pacific Coast States and other sources. The graphs in Figure 2 show a fairly steady upward trend from 1930 to 1938 for arrivals from the Pacific States, while the numbers coming from other areas were much greater in 1936 and 1937 than in other years. The steady rise of the curve for the Pacific Coast states should not, however, be considered to measure a steadily increasing inflow, because the numbers cover only families that were still in the state in 1939 and take no account of those who moved both in and out in the period. This residue of the inflow is likely to be relatively less for the arrivals of

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1/ McEntire and Whetten. Op. cit.

The movement to the Northwest resumed back in 1926 and 1927, as is indicated by the graph in Figure 3. None of the families enumerated in Washington arrived in 1927 than in any other year, while for Oregon and Idaho the peak year was 1928 (Table 4). In all three states there was a sharp reduction in the immigration movement in 1929. Labor volume in 1926 and 1927 followed by a sharp reduction in 1928 characterized the entire westward migration, the movement into California showing the same features 1/. The drought of 1924 and 1925 followed by a return to normal rainfall in the plains were doubtless the underlying causes, but the movement was not limited to farm families.

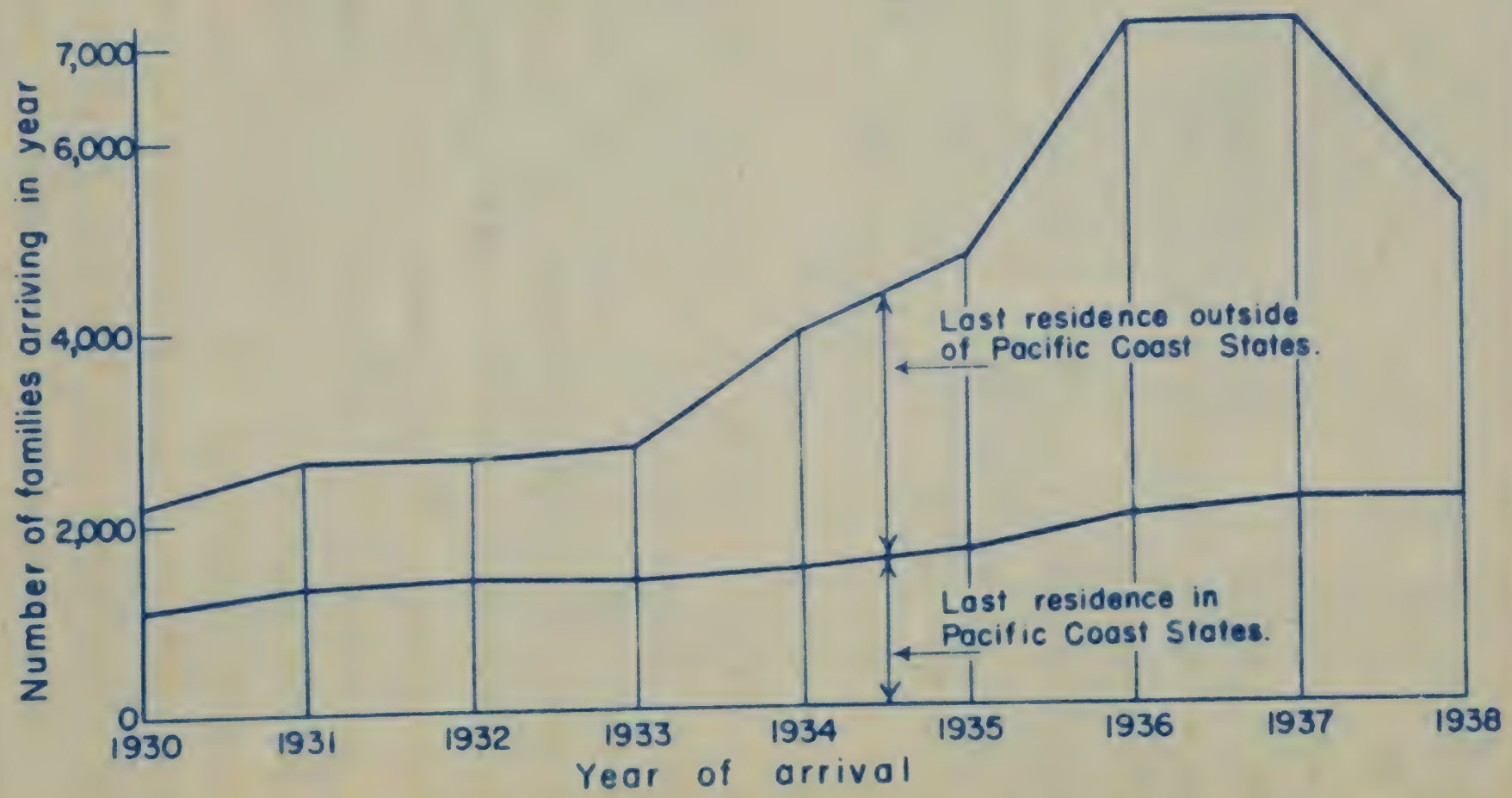
There was a marked difference between the timing of the migration [illegible]

[illegible] in 1928 was 2 step a fairly adequate upward trend from 1926 to 1928 for families from the Pacific States, while the persons coming from other areas were fixed quarter in 1926 and 1927 than in other years. The steady rise of the curve for the Pacific Coast states should not, however, be considered to [illegible]

[illegible] families that were still in the state in 1930 and take no account of those who moved both in and out in the period. This residue of the inflow is likely to be fairly large for the arrivals of

1/ [illegible]

Fig. 2. Families enumerated in Northwest Migration Survey, by year of arrival in state of 1939 residence.



The upper graph shows all families whose last residence was known; the lower graph shows families whose last residence was known to be in Pacific Coast States (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California).

Table 5-a. — Families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey, by year of arrival in the states of 1939 residence.

Year of arrival	Total, 3 States Number	Total, 3 States Percent	Washington Number	Oregon Number	Idaho Number
All years	45,211	100.0	18,997	19,421	6,793
1930	2,346	5.2	1,069	908	369
1931	2,844	6.3	1,219	1,170	455
1932	2,935	6.5	1,226	1,249	460
1933	3,053	6.7	1,314	1,292	447
1934	4,382	9.7	1,829	1,859	694
1935	5,337	11.8	2,141	2,335	861
1936	8,088	17.9	3,250	3,615	1,223
1937	8,167	18.1	3,550	3,528	1,089
1938	6,389	14.1	2,677	2,804	908
1939 a/	1,075	2.4	498	393	184
Unknown	595	1.3	224	268	103

a/ During first one to five months only. Exact time is uncertain because distribution and return of the questionnaires extended over a period of several months.

Table 5b - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *
BY YEAR OF ARRIVAL IN STATE OF 1939 RESIDENCE
BY REGION OF 1930 RESIDENCE

	Number	Percent	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Totals	26212	100.0	1077	1275	1270	1469	2627	3335	5725	5643	3791
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		4.1	4.9	4.9	5.6	10.0	12.7	21.8	21.5	14.5
Region II	1391	5.3	100	123	132	106	140	181	234	190	185
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		7.2	8.8	9.5	7.6	10.1	13.0	16.8	13.7	13.3
Region III	10307	39.3	286	407	413	523	1121	1283	2470	2458	1346
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		2.8	3.9	4.0	5.1	10.9	12.4	24.0	23.8	13.1
Region IV	5667	21.6	176	220	251	301	547	817	1273	1238	844
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		3.1	3.9	4.4	5.3	9.7	14.4	22.5	21.8	14.9
Region V	554	2.1	25	25	11	19	41	56	142	121	114
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		4.5	4.5	2.0	3.4	7.4	10.1	25.6	21.9	20.6
Region VI	5788	22.1	294	316	319	343	525	700	1229	1193	869
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		5.1	5.5	5.5	5.9	9.1	12.1	21.2	20.6	15.0
Region VII, VIII, and IX	2505	9.6	196	184	144	177	253	298	377	443	433
Percent by year of arrival	100.0		7.8	7.3	5.7	7.1	10.1	11.9	15.1	17.7	17.3

* Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California.

earlier years because of the greater time available for depletion of the ranks of the earlier arrivals. Furthermore, it is likely that there has been an under-enumeration of the earlier arrivals because many of their younger children were born in the state that they were living in at the time of the survey, and for that reason may not have responded. The actual inflow from the Pacific States was probably much more nearly constant from year to year than the data indicate, but there was undoubtedly a sharp rise from 1933 to 1936 in the migration from other areas, especially the Great Plains.

The variations in the principal sources of migration were reflected in differences in the occupational composition of the incoming stream.1/ From 1930 to 1934 former farmers and farm laborers were about a quarter of the total, approximately the same as the "white collar" group, while in 1934 to 1937 they accounted for nearly 38 percent of the total. The large number of farm families arriving in these years are shown graphically in Figure 4.

Omitting the Pacific Coast area, the farmer and farm labor group was most important in the migration of 1934 when it was 48.4 percent of the total, after which it fell to 45.8 percent in 1936 and 42.9 percent of the total in the year 1937. Thus while in absolute number this group was increasing, it was decreasing in relative importance. Table 5-c shows the shift in relative importance of the several occupational groups.

The migration appears to have had three distinct phases. During the first phase, from 1930 through 1933, approximately

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1/ The occupational composition of the groups from different regions is discussed in section VI. The "white collar" group referred to here includes professional, owners (except farmers), managers, officials and clerks.

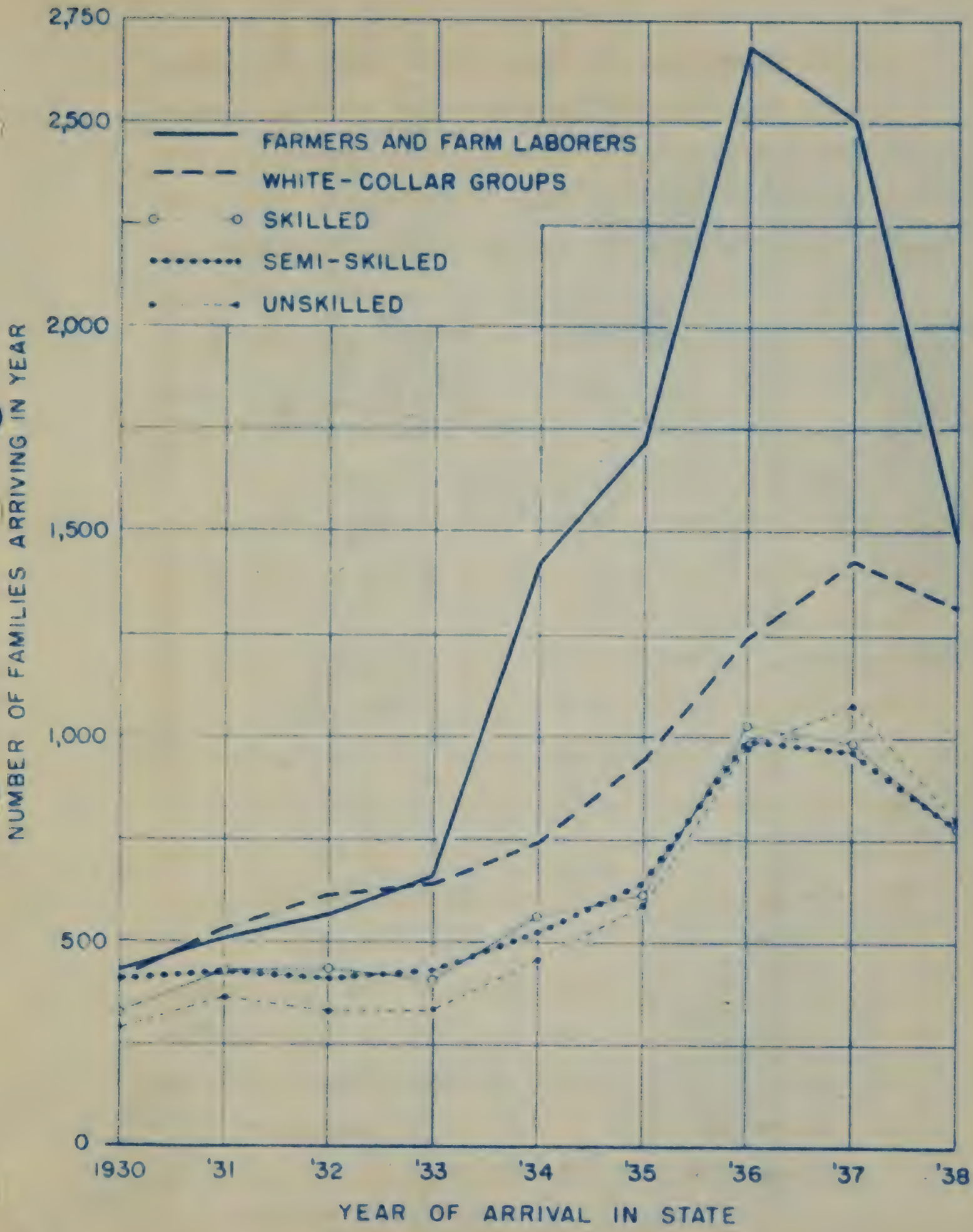


FIG. 4 TIME OF MIGRATION BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

Table 5c — FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *

OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS BY PERCENT ARRIVING EACH YEAR

Year of Entry Into State

Occupational Group	Total Percent	1930 Percent	1931 Percent	1932 Percent	1933 Percent	1934 Percent	1935 Percent	1936 Percent	1937 Percent	1938 Percent	1939 Percent
Professional	4.4	5.1	6.0	5.7	6.0	4.2	4.4	2.8	3.8	5.7	6.9
Owners and Managers	6.6	7.1	6.5	7.1	7.4	5.7	6.0	5.4	6.4	8.6	11.6
Clerks	7.4	8.9	9.4	9.3	9.6	7.0	6.9	6.6	6.5	7.2	13.6
Skilled	14.3	17.2	19.2	18.6	15.5	13.4	12.6	14.0	13.6	14.2	14.3
Semi-skilled	12.9	19.4	16.6	15.1	14.1	10.9	12.2	12.3	12.2	12.4	16.6
Unskilled	13.1	12.7	14.3	13.0	11.4	10.4	12.3	13.1	14.7	17.3	11.3
Farmers & Farm Laborers	41.3	29.6	28.0	31.2	36.0	48.4	45.7	45.8	42.9	34.6	25.7

* Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California.

half of the incoming people came from the Pacific Coast states. The years from 1934 to 1937 were characterized by a rapidly increasing movement from the Plains States, bringing in relatively large numbers of agricultural workers. This is the drought phase. The data for the year 1938 show signs of a return to the characteristics of the pre-1934 migration.

While the severe droughts in the middle west were important factors determining the volume of migration, it is interesting to note that all regions contributed their maximum numbers to the stream of migrants entering the Northwest in the same years: 1936-1937. Of even more importance is the close percentage increase in the volume of migration between the year 1933 and the year 1937 for all regions. The average increase was 15.9 percent. No region, with the exception of the Southwestern states, varied more than 3 percent from this average. (See Table 5-b). Factors of more universal character than the droughts were contributing their share to the westward movement in these years.

The length of time the families had been in the counties where they were living in 1939 provides some measure of the residential stability of these newcomers to the Northwest (Table 6). Seventy-nine percent had settled prior to 1938. About four-fifths of all the enumerated families had lived in the same county ever since entering the state, and 86 percent settled in the county the same year they entered the state. The proportion that moved into the county the same year they arrived in the state was smaller for the earlier arrivals, since the original group entering a county in any year was depleted each subsequent year through

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Table 6. —— Families enumerated in Northwest migration survey, by year of arrival in state and county of 1939 residence.

Year	Arriving in state	Arriving in county		Arriving in state and county in same year	
	Number	Number	Percent	Number	Percent of number arriving in state
All years	45,211	45,211	100.0	38,649	86
1930	2,346	1,773	3.9	1,773	76
1931	2,844	2,286	5.1	2,209	78
1932	2,935	2,474	5.5	2,314	79
1933	3,053	2,700	6.0	2,460	81
1934	4,382	3,971	8.8	3,613	83
1935	5,337	5,060	11.2	4,513	85
1936	8,088	7,865	17.4	7,025	87
1937	8,167	8,730	19.3	7,427	91
1938	6,389	8,039	17.7	6,240	98
1939	1,075	1,484	3.3	1,075	100
Unknown	595	829	1.8		

Year	Arriving in state	Arriving in county		Arriving in state and county in same year	
	Number	Number	Percent	Number	Percent of number arriving in state
All years	45,211	45,211	100.0	36,649	80
1930	2,346	1,773	3.9	1,779	76
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1924	4,242	3,771	8.8	3,512	82
1925	5,327	5,060	11.2	4,215	81
1926	8,268	7,865	17.4	7,045	87
1927	8,167	8,730	18.3	7,447	91
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1929	1,075	1,464	3.3	1,075	100
Unknown	595	829	1.8		

removals to other counties. The data show that a very large majority of these families ceased to be "migrants" within a short time after entering the state.

V - AREAS OF SETTLEMENT

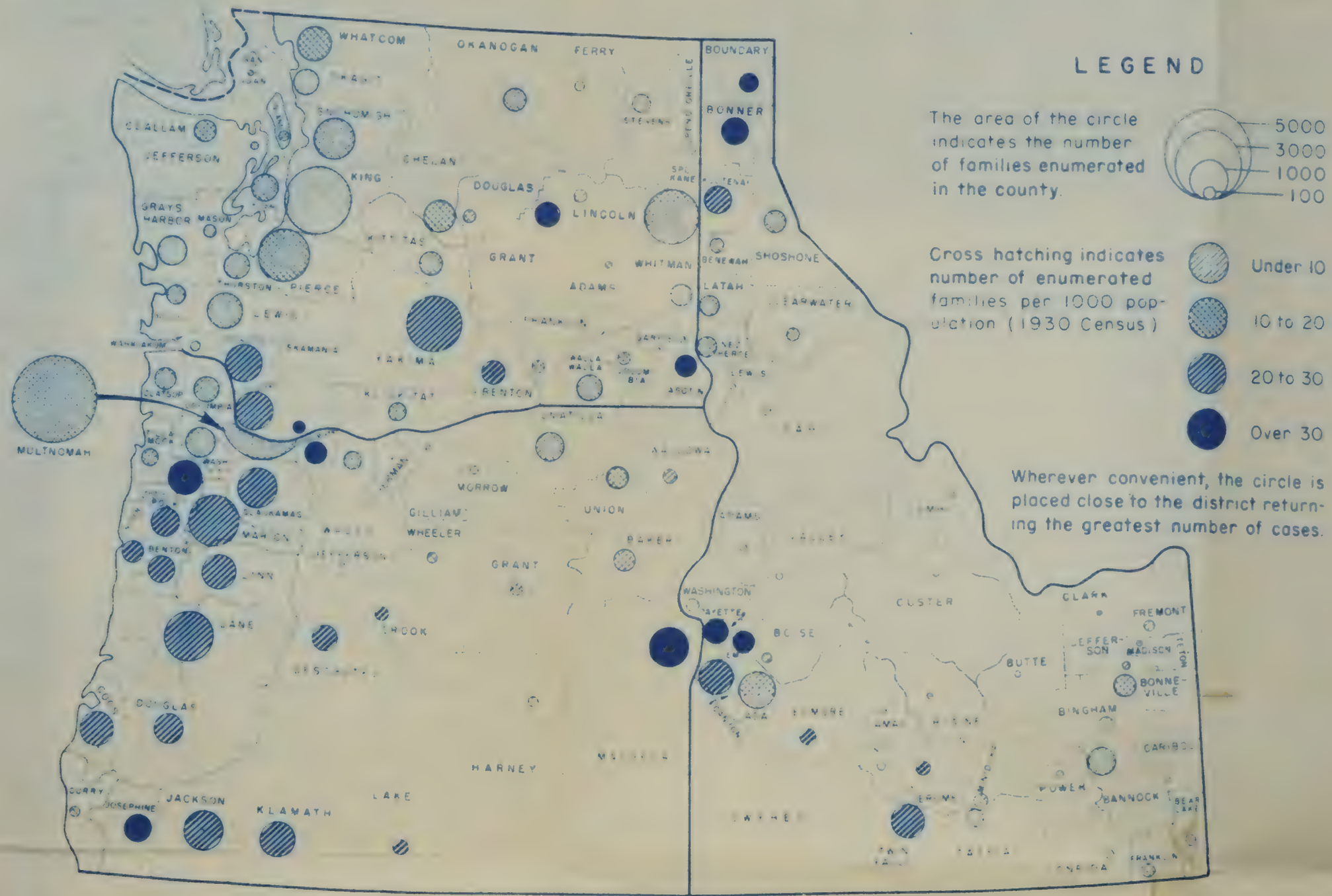
In general, the most populous areas attracted the most newcomers. The areas of greatest concentration were Portland and the Willamette Valley, the Puget Sound region, the Yakima Valley, Spokane, the northern counties of Idaho and the Snake River Valley (Figure 5). The part of Washington and Oregon lying west of the Cascade Mountains included 59 percent of the survey families and 63 percent of the population of the three states. The ten leading counties, ranked according to number of enumerated families were (1) Multnomah, Oregon (Portland); (2) King, Washington (Seattle); (3) Spokane, Washington; (4) Yakima, Washington; (5) Pierce, Washington.(Tacoma); (6) Marion, Oregon (Salem); (7) Lane, Oregon (Eugene); (8) Snohomish, Washington (Everett); (9) Clackamas, Oregon; (10) Jackson, Oregon (Medford). In these ten counties were 43 percent of the enumerated cases, and 50 percent of the population of the three states.

While the geographical distribution of the newcomers was generally similar to that of the resident population, some differences appear when the pattern is examined in detail. On the map, Figure 5, there is shown for each county a circle, the area of which is proportional to the number of survey families and the cross-hatching indicates the ratio of these families to resident population. The data are given in Tables 7a, 7b, and 7c. Noteworthy areas in which the ratio of newcomers to population was greater than average are the western Oregon counties south of

In general, the most populous areas attracted the most newcomers. The ranks of greatest concentration were defined and the Willamette Valley, the Puget Sound region, the Yakima Valley, Spokane, the southwest counties of Idaho and the Snake River Valley (Figure 5). The part of Washington and Oregon lying east of the Cascade Mountains included 37 percent of the survey families and 13 percent of the population of the three states. The ten leading counties, ranked according to number of enumerated families were (1) Multnomah, Oregon (Portland); (2) King, Washington (Seattle); (3) Spokane, Washington; (4) Yakima, Washington; (5) Pierce, Washington (Tacoma); (6) Marion, Oregon (Salem); (7) Lane, Oregon (Eugene); (8) Benton, Washington (Kennewick); (9) Clackamas, Oregon; (10) Jackson, Oregon (Medford). In these ten counties were 43 percent of the enumerated cases, and 50 percent of the population of the three states.

While the geographical distribution of the newcomers was generally similar to that of the resident population, some differences appear when the pattern is examined in detail. On the map, Figure 5, there is given for each county a circle, the area of which is proportional to the number of survey families and the cross-hatching indicates the ratio of these families to resident population. The data are given in Tables 7a, 7b, and 7c. Noteworthy areas in which the ratio of newcomers to population was greater than average are the western Oregon counties south of

FIG. 5 DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTIES OF FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY



most counties of Idaho, and the irrigated area in Payette, Owyhee and Canyon Counties in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, there are several areas of especially high ratio that can be explained by local circumstances. In Grant County, Washington, most of the returns were from families of workers on the Grand Coulee Dam in the northeastern corner of the county. The construction of Bonneville Dam probably accounts for a large part of the relatively high concentration of newcomers in Hood River County, Oregon and Skamania County, Washington. In Boundary and Bonner Counties in Idaho there has been especially heavy settlement on cutover land. In Malheur County, Oregon, the opening of new land in the Owyhee irrigation project brought in hundreds of settlers from [illegible]

In contrast to the irrigated areas, the dry farming and range livestock areas which lie east of the Cascades attracted [illegible] of the newcomers [illegible].

The impact of the migration, as measured by the ratio of newcomers to resident population, was somewhat greater in the rural areas and small cities than in the large cities. Table 8 shows the distribution of the enumerated families and the 1930 population by residence classification. Because the residence classification of the survey areas was on a school district basis and the urban districts usually included areas outside the corporate limits of the city, the numbers classified as living in the cities are somewhat inflated. Furthermore, a significant number

of rural schools in Idaho did not cooperate in the survey; hence the proportion of rural cases is smaller than it should be. The percentage distributions shown in Table 8 are, therefore, not strictly comparable, but they do serve to indicate that the ratio of newcomers to resident population was lower in the large cities and higher in the rural areas and small cities. This can be largely accounted for by the higher proportion of farm families in the incoming group, since farm people entering a strange state naturally gravitate to the rural areas. While nearly a third of all the survey families settled in or near cities of over 10,000 population, only 13 percent of the former agricultural workers (farmers and farm laborers) were found in these cities (Table 13a, Section VI).

Table 8a shows the migrant families by the number of children living at home at the time of the survey and by rural-urban class. Not only did the rural areas receive the largest number of families, they were also the areas of settlement of the families of largest size. The cities of 100,000 and over show 28.1 percent of the families as having but one child, and only 20.3 percent as having four or more children. In rural areas, on the other hand, only 16.5 percent of the families had but one child, and 37.2 percent had four or more children. Table 8b suggests the reason for this, in that 46.5 percent of the families moving into the rural areas of the region were of farm background. The farmers and farm laborers showed the least success of any occupational group in finding employment in their usual occupation, but, never-the-less, 70 percent of their number, as contrasted with 49.2 percent of

of rural schools in Idaho did not cooperate in the survey; hence the proportion of rural areas is smaller than it should be. The percentage distributions shown in Table 4 are, therefore, not strictly comparable, but they do serve to indicate that the ratio of newcomers to resident population was lower in the large cities and higher in the rural areas and small cities. This can be largely accounted for by the higher proportion of farm families in the incoming group, since farm people generally migrate naturally preferably to the rural areas. While nearly a third of all the survey families settled in or near cities of over 10,000 population, only 13 percent of the former agricultural workers (farmers and farm laborers) were found in these cities. (Table 12, Section VI).

Table 8a shows the migrant families by the number of children living at home at the time of the survey and by rural-urban class. Not only did the rural areas receive the largest number of families, they were also the scene of settlement of the families of largest size. The cities of 10,000 and over show 32.1 percent of the families as having but one child, and only 20.2 percent as having four or more children. In rural areas, on the other hand, only 12.5 percent of the families had but one child, and 37.2 percent had four or more children. Table 8b suggests the reason for this, in that 44.5 percent of the families moving into the rural areas of the region were of farm background. The farmers and farm laborers showed the least success of any occupational group in finding employment in their usual occupation, but, never-the-less,

Table 8.—Families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey and percentage distribution of the 1930 population, by residence classification. a/

Residence Classification	1930 population percent	Families enumerated in migration survey: Total Number	Total Percent	Washington Number	Oregon Number	Idaho Number
Total	100.0	45,211	100.0	18,997	19,421	6,793
Cities over 100,000	30.0	8,032	17.8	3,911	4,121	
Portland	10.2	4,121	9.1		4,121	
Seattle b/	12.3	1,491	3.3	1,491		
Spokane	3.9	1,443	3.2	1,443		
Tacoma	3.6	977	2.2	977		
Cities 10,000 to 100,000	11.0	6,339	14.0	3,382	1,988	969
Cities 2,500 to 10,000	9.8	7,873	17.4	2,289	2,921	2,663
Rural Areas	49.2	22,967	50.8	9,415	10,391	3,161

a/ Residence classification was based on the school district attended by the youngest child in the family. The school districts were classified according to the 1930 population of the largest city in the district. Those containing no city over 2,500 population are rural.

b/ Because of a difference in the method of conducting the survey in Seattle, the enumeration there was less complete than in most other areas.

Table 4.—Number of farms, acreage, and percentage distribution by production, by production classes, 1959 [illegible]

Production classes	Farms		Acreage		Percentage distribution	
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acreage
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms over 100,000	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms under 100,000						
Under 50,000	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
25,000 to 49,999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
10,000 to 24,999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
5,000 to 9,999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms 2,000 to 4,999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms 1,000 to 1,999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms 500 to 999	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms 250 to 499	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farms under 250	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total farms	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

1/ Acreage of farms in specified classes in relation to the acreage in the survey in Table 1. [illegible]

Table 8-a - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *
BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH FAMILY IN 1939

Residence Classification	Total**		Families by Number of Children Living at Home at Time of Survey							
			One Child		Two Children		Three Children		Four or More Children	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
GRAND TOTALS	26342	100.0	5171	19.6	7186	27.3	5598	21.3	8372	31.8
Cities of 100,000 and over	4144	100.0	1166	28.1	1377	33.2	760	18.4	841	20.3
Cities of 10,000 - 100,000	3740	100.0	851	22.8	1174	31.3	773	20.7	942	25.2
Cities of 2,500 - 10,000	4768	100.0	899	18.9	1314	27.5	1050	22.0	1505	31.6
Rural Areas	13690	100.0	2255	16.5	3321	24.3	3015	22.0	5099	37.2

* Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California.

** 610 of the 26952 families enumerated are omitted because this information was not available.

Table 8-b - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *
BY RESIDENCE CLASSIFICATION AND
FORMER OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

Residence Classification	Population 1930	Families Enumerated in Survey		Occupational Groups										
	Percent	Number	Percent	Professional	Farmers	Owners & Managers	Clerks	Skilled	Semi-Skilled	Farm Laborers	Other Laborers	Servant Classes	Unknown	Unemployed & No Male Head
TOTAL	100.0	26952	100.0	1003	6859	1507	1698	3295	2953	2610	2762	258	2928	1079
Percent in Occ. Groups		100.0		3.7	25.4	5.6	6.3	12.2	11.0	9.7	10.2	1.0	10.9	4.0
Cities over 100,000	30.0	4144	15.4	309	356	426	557	588	532	117	272	63	655	269
Percent in Occ. Groups		100.0		7.5	8.6	10.3	13.4	14.2	12.8	2.8	6.6	1.5	15.8	6.5
Cities 10,000 to 100,000	11.0	3743	13.9	204	590	284	343	566	500	182	312	53	544	165
Percent in Occ. Groups		100.0		5.4	15.8	7.6	9.2	15.1	13.4	4.9	8.3	1.4	14.5	4.4
Cities 2,500 to 10,000	9.8	4847	18.0	192	1155	300	300	663	537	457	497	43	508	195
Percent in Occ. Groups		100.0		4.0	23.8	6.2	6.2	13.7	11.1	9.4	10.2	0.9	10.5	4.0
Rural Areas	49.2	14218	52.7	298	4758	497	498	1478	1384	1854	1681	99	1221	450
Percent in Occ. Groups		100.0		2.1	33.5	3.5	3.5	10.4	9.7	13.0	11.8	0.7	8.6	3.2

* Less families from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California.

the whole migrant group, settled in rural areas. The reason for this lies in the fact that the chief direction of occupational shift for the group was toward the semi-skilled (production worker), and unskilled groups, and the industries in the region hiring the greatest number of low skilled workers lie outside the large city areas. The seasonal work in agriculture, in addition, provides opportunity to supplement the family income by the labor of children in agriculture. Thus the larger sized farm families in the migration chose rural areas for settlement, more for the greater opportunities of employment there than for any nostalgia for rural scenes or expectation of future opportunities to settle on farms.

The problems of the rural schools have been enhanced by this recent migration; particularly there is, in many places, a severe overcrowding of the grade schools. There are 1.8 children per migrant family attending grade school in the rural areas, and only 1.3 in the large urban centers. The high schools have not, in the main, been as overcrowded in the rural areas as in the cities. The declining birth rate in large cities, together with the increased high school enrollment due to the depression, has left many of the grade schools partially vacant and has overcrowded the high schools.

The proportion of the migrants entering rural parts of the Northwest has increased with every year, while at the same time many of the migrants who came earlier have moved to rural areas (see tables 8-c and 8-d).

Table 8-c - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *

PERCENT OF FAMILIES ARRIVING IN EACH
RESIDENCE CLASS, BY YEARS

- Year of Entry into State -

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cities over 100,000	22.9	21.2	19.0	20.5	13.5	13.1	13.8	13.2	14.7	32.6
Cities 10,000 to 100,000	16.2	18.3	14.6	15.6	13.8	13.0	13.4	13.4	12.9	16.0
Cities 2,500 to 10,000	17.6	15.6	17.5	17.6	18.2	20.2	18.2	17.5	18.1	14.5
Rural Areas	43.3	44.9	48.9	46.3	54.5	53.8	54.6	55.9	54.3	36.9

*Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California.

Table 8-d - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *

PERCENT OF FAMILIES ARRIVING IN EACH RESIDENCE CLASS, BY YEARS

	- Year of Entry into County -									
	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Cities over 100,000	26.1	23.3	19.3	21.5	14.5	13.8	14.1	13.1	12.8	27.8
Cities 10,000 to 100,000	16.4	17.8	14.9	16.0	14.3	13.4	13.6	13.6	12.4	15.5
Cities 2,500 to 10,000	16.4	14.6	17.9	17.6	18.5	19.8	18.4	17.7	17.6	15.4
Rural Areas	41.1	44.3	47.9	44.9	52.7	53.0	53.9	55.6	57.2	41.3

* Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California.

VI - OCCUPATIONS AND OCCUPATIONAL SHIFTS

Nearly all occupations from unskilled labor to the most highly trained professions were represented in the group studied. 1/ In fact this group appears to have been made up of a fair cross-section of the occupational classes of the areas from which these people came. This is shown by comparison of the occupational group distribution of the survey cases from the various regions with the distribution of the male working population of the same regions (Figure 6a and Table 9). 2/ The distributions were in general quite similar, but there was some difference. The professional group was slightly over-represented in the survey cases from most of the regions. Owners, managers, officials and clerks were under-represented. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, especially the latter, were somewhat over-represented, while the proportion of unskilled workers among the survey cases was somewhat lower than in the population of nearly all regions.

The agricultural workers (farmers and farm laborers) are of particular interest. The children of 12,142 families reported that their fathers had been engaged in farm work before coming into the state. This was about one-third of the cases for which the previous occupation of the father was reported. A state-by-state comparison shows that the proportion of the agricultural workers in the survey

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1/ See Appendix A for discussion of occupational classifications. "Former occupations" refer to kind of work the father (or other male head of household) was doing before he came into the state. "1939 occupations" refer to kind of work he was doing at the time of the survey.

2/ For this comparison the survey cases are grouped by regions according to last residence, since the reported former occupation is more likely to have been carried on in the last place of residence rather than in some previous place.

[illegible] occupations from unskilled labor to the best [illegible]. 1/

In fact this ratio appears to have been made up of a fair cross-section of the occupational classes of the areas from which these people came. This is shown by comparison of the occupational group distribution of the survey cases from the working regions with the distribution of the male working population of the same regions (figures 1a and table 9). 2/ The distributions were in general [illegible] group was slightly over-represented in the survey cases from most of the regions. Unskilled, semi-skilled, or no-skilled workers were under-represented. Skilled and semi-skilled workers, especially the former, were somewhat over-represented, while the proportion of unskilled workers among the survey cases was somewhat lower than in the population of nearly all regions.

The agricultural workers (farmers and farm laborers) are of particular interest. The children of 12,142 families reported that their fathers had been engaged in farm work before coming into the state. This was about one-third of the cases for which the previous occupation of the father was reported. A state-by-state comparison shows that the proportion of the agricultural workers in the survey

1/ [illegible] occupational [illegible] for to kind of work the "[illegible]" (or [illegible] rule-[illegible] of [illegible]) was coming before he came into the [illegible] "occupations" refer to kind of work he was doing at the time [illegible] the survey.

2/ [illegible] comparison the survey cases are grouped by relative seccession to last residence, since this reported larger occupies on in [illegible] were likely to have been doing on in the last place of residence.

Fig. 6a – Percentage distribution of male heads of enumerated families by former occupational groups by regions of last residence; and comparison with distribution of all gainfully occupied males in those regions according to 1930 census.

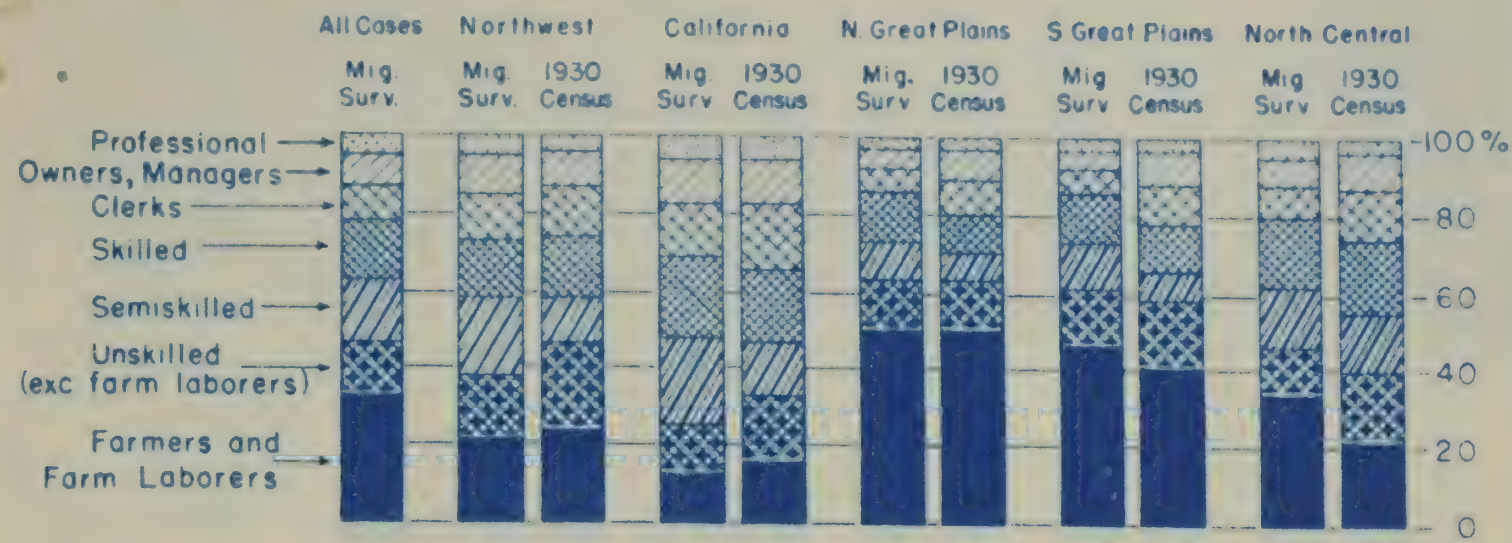

Fig. 6b – Male heads of enumerated families, by 1939 occupational groups and former occupational groups.

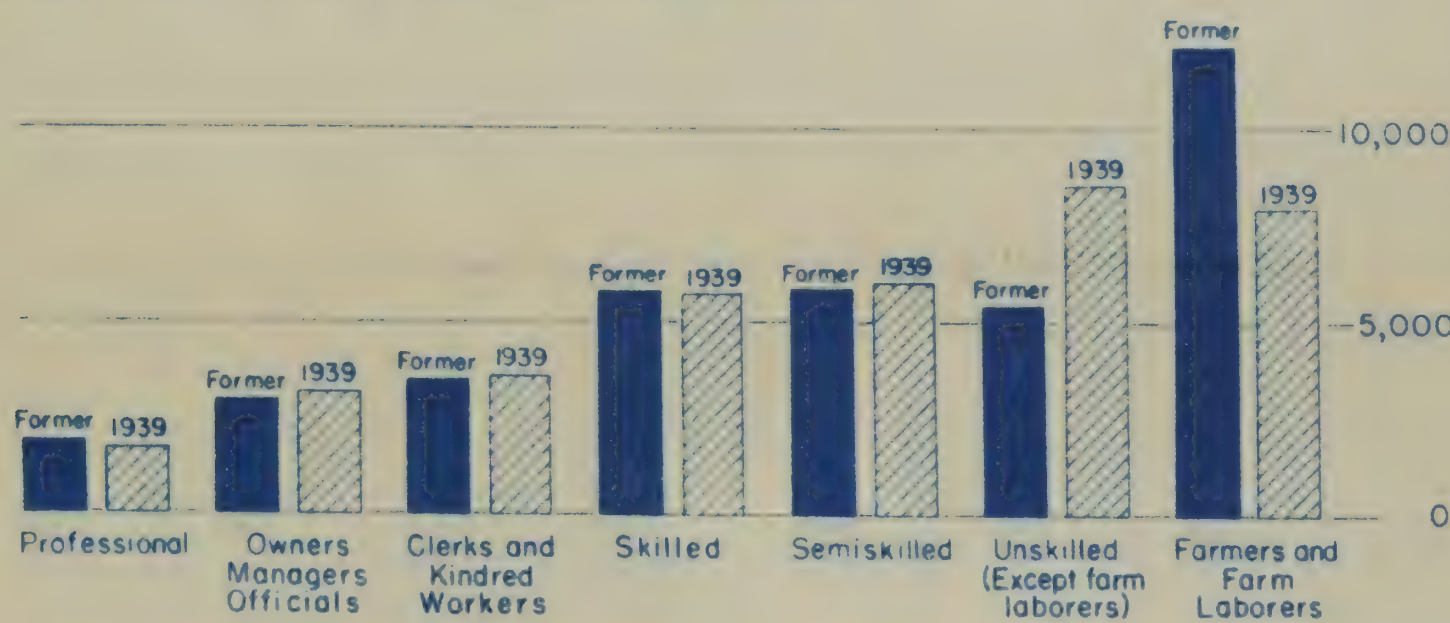

Fig. 6c – Percentage distribution of employed male heads of enumerated families by 1939 occupational groups, by state of residence in 1939; and comparison with distribution of all gainfully occupied males according to 1930 census.

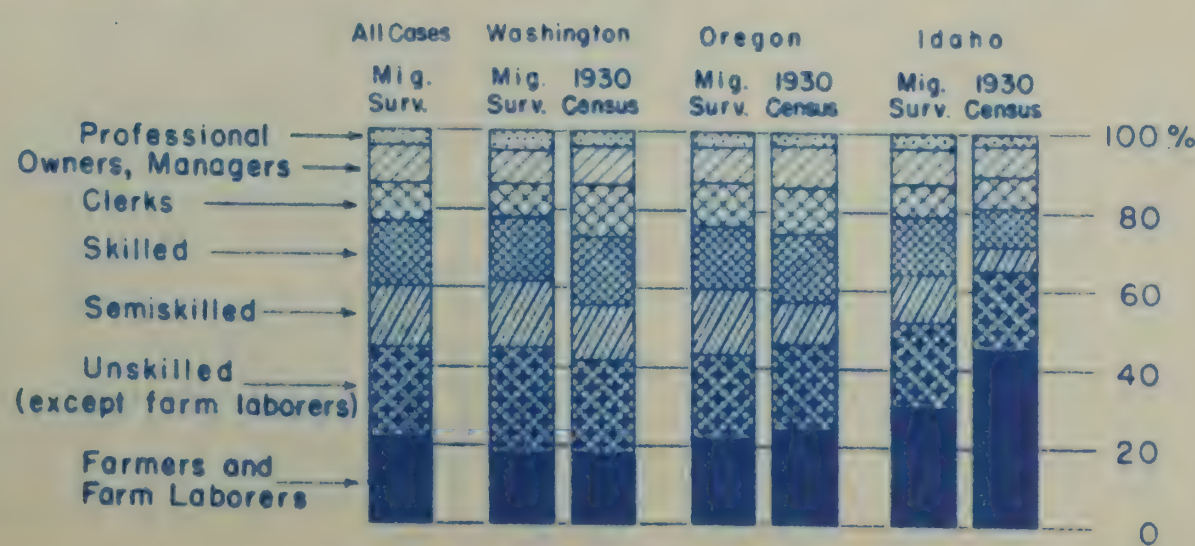

Table 9 - Families enumerated in Northwest migration survey, by former occupational group, by region of last residence, and percentage distribution of all male gainful workers by occupational groups for seven regions according to the 1930 census. a/

Occupational group	All regions		Northwest			California			Southwest			Northern Great Plains		
			Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		1930 Census
	No.	%	No.	%	%	No.	%	%	No.	%	%	No.	%	%
All cases b/	37,314	100.0	6,193	100.0	100.0	3,802	100.0	100.0	1,278	100.0	100.0	8,490	100.0	100.0
Professional	1,844	4.9	429	5.2	4.0	220	5.8	5.7	71	5.6	4.5	240	2.8	3.2
Owners, managers, officials c/	2,945	7.9	768	9.4	9.5	415	10.9	11.3	133	10.4	8.7	465	5.5	8.2
Clerks, etc.	3,473	9.3	1,003	12.2	12.1	555	14.6	17.3	166	13.0	11.3	524	6.2	9.1
Skilled workers	5,757	15.4	1,265	15.5	16.0	798	21.0	18.7	214	16.7	15.3	1,083	12.8	9.8
Semi-skilled workers	5,800	15.6	1,593	19.5	11.9	815	21.4	13.7	211	16.5	9.9	854	10.1	6.6
Unskilled workers	5,353	14.4	1,340	16.3	22.7	489	12.9	17.3	204	16.0	23.4	1,067	12.5	12.4
Farmers and farm laborers	12,142	32.5	1,795	21.9	23.8	510	13.4	16.0	279	21.8	26.9	4,256	50.1	50.7

Table 9 - Continued

Occupational group	Southern Great Plains			North Central			South Central			Eastern States		Overseas & Foreign	
	Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		1930 Census	Migration Survey		Migration Survey	
	No.	%	%	No.	%	%	No.	%	%	No.	%	No.	%
All cases b/	4,349	100.0	100.0	4,393	100.0	100.0	432	100.0	100.0	820	100.0	1,370	100.0
Professional	147	3.4	3.5	222	5.0	3.9	17	3.9	2.3	87	10.6	112	8.2
Owners, managers, officials c/	208	4.8	8.5	299	6.8	9.0	11	2.5	5.6	89	10.9	166	12.1
Clerks, etc.	249	5.7	10.5	364	8.3	13.4	22	5.1	6.7	82	10.0	131	9.6
Skilled workers	568	13.0	11.6	773	17.6	18.3	57	13.2	7.7	131	16.0	213	15.6
Semi-skilled workers	517	11.9	8.3	700	15.9	15.0	57	13.2	6.4	164	20.0	195	14.2
Unskilled workers	643	14.9	16.8	542	12.4	18.3	40	9.3	15.6	120	14.6	183	13.3
Farmers and farm laborers	2,017	46.3	40.8	1,493	34.0	22.1	228	52.8	55.7	147	17.9	370	27.0

a/Source of census data is Alba M. Edwards, op. cit.
b/Covers 83 percent of all families enumerated; excludes cases whose former occupation was unknown, unemployed, and "other cases."
c/Excludes farmers.

sample followed fairly closely the proportion of such workers in the male population in most of the states (Table 10). Among the migrants from Missouri, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, the proportion of farm workers was relatively high as compared with the population. These states were all in the drought areas of 1934 and 1936. Whatever the underlying causes of the displacement of these people from their former homes, it is evident that all sections of the population were affected. The effects of drought fall first on agriculture, but they also reach into allied businesses and influence the fortunes of all whose livelihood depends on the sale of goods and services to farmers.

There was a marked similarity in the distribution of the occupations pursued in 1939 by the employed heads of the families studied and the male working population of the Northwest States as indicated by the 1930 Census, (Table 11a and Figure 6c) 1/ This is about what one would expect, since the opportunities for the employment of newcomers in most types of work are likely to be roughly proportional to the numbers already employed in such work. The similarity is not as close for the Idaho cases as for Washington and Oregon. In Idaho the agricultural group was unduly small, probably because a significant proportion of rural schools did not

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1/ In comparing the occupational distributions in Table 11a it should be remembered that the census data were 9 years old at the time the survey was made. After 9 years of severe depression and technological change some occupations have grown in importance and others have declined. Nevertheless, the 1930 census provides the only data available, and is probably good enough for the comparisons we wish to make here.

[illegible] relative to the proportion of wholesale workers in the population in most of the states (Table 2). Among the [illegible] Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, and Wisconsin, the proportion of farm workers was relatively high as compared with the overall total. These states were also in the Groups of 1934 and 1935. Further, the relatively young age of the distribution of the population here tends to indicate that the movement was selective. The effects of recent fall off in the population were evidently [illegible]. The effects of recent fall off in the population, but they also tend to [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] of all [illegible] Livelihood depends on the state of [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible].

There was a marked [illegible] in the distribution of the occupation groups in 1935 by the employers needs of the families stabilized in the [illegible] conditions of the northwest states as indicated by the 1930 Census. (Table 1A, or Figure 6)[1]. This is about what one would expect, since the opportunities for the employment of manpower in these types of work are likely to be normally proportional to the numbers already employed in such work. The exception is not so close for the Lake states as for Washington and Oregon. In Idaho the agricultural group was unduly small, probably because a significant proportion of rural people did not

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[1] In comparing the occupational distribution in Table 1A it should be remembered that the Census data were for 2 years old at the time the survey was made. Since 2 years of severe depression [illegible] occupational changes were concentrated in the upper [illegible] occupations like [illegible], and the proportion good enough for the comparisons in this [illegible].

Table 10-Number and percentage of former farmers and farm laborers in the Northwest migration survey, by states of last residence, and the percentage of farmers and farm laborers among all gainfully occupied males according to the 1930 census, by states.

Region and state of last residence	Migration Survey		1930 Census
	Number	Percent a/	Percent b/
All Cases	12,142		
Northwest region	1,795	21.9	23.8
Washington	542	17.3	18.2
Oregon	522	19.6	23.7
Idaho	731	30.5	45.4
California	510	13.4	16.0
Southwest	279	21.8	26.9
Utah	190	22.7	28.3
Arizona	59	23.0	26.5
Nevada	30	16.4	22.8
Northern Great Plains	4,256	50.1	50.7
Nebraska	1,261	53.5	46.0
North Dakota	1,127	58.8	63.8
Montana	671	35.0	41.6
South Dakota	958	56.3	60.5
Wyoming	239	39.5	36.8
Southern Great Plains	2,017	46.3	40.8
Kansas	741	47.2	38.8
Colorado	637	49.0	31.4
Oklahoma	449	47.2	41.9
Texas	124	32.8	42.4
New Mexico	66	43.6	46.6
North Central States	1,493	34.0	22.1
Minnesota	377	37.0	37.0
Missouri	463	49.0	30.8
Iowa	338	40.3	43.0
Illinois	69	14.3	13.8
Wisconsin	159	33.8	30.6
Michigan	37	11.8	15.3
Ohio	18	10.8	14.5
Indiana	32	19.7	23.9
South Central	228	52.8	55.7
Arkansas	218	59.0	61.0
Louisiana	6	c/	39.7
Mississippi	4	c/	67.5

Region and state of last residence	Migration Survey		1930 Census
	Number	Percent a/	Percent b/
All Cases (Continued):			
Eastern States	147	17.9	---
Overseas and Foreign	370	27.0	---
Unknown	1,047	---	---

a/ The base for the percentage is the number of cases of known former occupation from the state.

b/ Based on Alba M. Edwards, op. cit.

c/ Number of cases too small to warrant calculation of percentage.

[illegible]

Table 11-Occupations in 1939 of employed male heads of families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey, by states.

Occupation and Group	Total 3 States	Washington	Oregon	Idaho
All Cases a/	36,432	15,228	15,421	5,783
Professional	1,645	700	693	252
Clergymen	481	223	190	68
Engineers and surveyors	300	118	143	39
Teachers and college professors	273	114	103	56
Other professional occupations	591	245	257	89
Proprietors, Managers, Officials	3,133	1,253	1,387	493
Retail dealers	1,227	493	565	169
Managers and Officials	680	262	312	106
U. S. Officials & Inspectors	222	132	62	28
Owners and Proprietors (mfg.)	200	68	100	32
Builders	183	64	87	32
Other Proprietors, etc.	621	234	261	126
Clerks and kindred workers	3,568	1,466	1,603	499
Salesmen	1,878	734	877	267
Clerks (except in stores)	562	250	235	77
Accountants, bookkeepers, cashiers	252	103	106	43
Insurance agents	196	96	71	29
Other Clerks, etc.	680	283	314	83
Skilled workers and foremen	5,704	2,439	2,419	846
Carpenters	1,691	721	729	241
Mechanics	1,004	402	461	141
Foremen	502	237	171	94
Painters (building)	467	183	223	61
Engineers (stationary)	201	98	86	17
Machinists	196	87	83	26
Electricians	200	81	80	39
Plumbers, steam fitters	161	70	60	31
Sawyers	155	56	91	8
Other skilled workers	1,127	504	435	188
Semi-skilled workers	5,965	2,533	2,731	701
Operatives (mfg. and mech. ind.)	2,457	1,054	1,204	199
Chauffeurs, truck and tractor drivers	1,161	431	548	182
Barbers	205	88	92	25
Soldiers, sailors and marines	176	132	39	5
Other semi-skilled workers	1,966	828	848	290

Table - 11- Continued (Page 2 of 2 pages)

Occupation and Group	Total 3 States	Washington	Oregon	Idaho
Unskilled workers	8,494	4,031	3,199	1,264
W.P.A. Laborers	3,184	1,870	820	494
Lumbermen, woodchoppers	1.461	508	828	125
Operatives, extraction of minerals	428	133	110	185
Janitors	229	85	108	36
Cooks	193	79	89	25
Fishermen and oystermen	109	78	30	1
Other unskilled workers	2,890	1,278	1,214	398
Farmers and farm laborers	7,923	2,806	3,389	1,728

a/ Excludes unknown, unemployed and "other cases".

Table 11a-Percentage distribution of 1939 occupations of employed male heads of families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey and all gainfully occupied males according to 1930 Census, by states.

Occupation and Group	Washington		Oregon		Idaho	
	Migration Survey	1930 Census	Migration Survey	1930 Census	Migration Survey	1930 Census
All Cases a/	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional	4.6	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.4	3.4
Clergymen	1.5	0.3	1.2	0.4	1.2	0.3
Engineers and surveyors	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.5
Teachers and college professors	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0
Other professional occupations	1.6	2.3	1.7	2.3	1.5	1.6
Proprietors, managers, officials	8.2	9.8	9.0	9.9	8.5	7.5
Retail dealers	3.2	4.1	3.7	4.1	2.9	3.5
Managers and officials	1.7	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.8	0.8
U. S. Officials and inspectors	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1
Owners and proprietors (mfg)	0.4	1.1	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.8
Builders	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.3
Other proprietors, etc.	1.5	2.5	1.7	2.5	2.1	2.0
Clerks and kindred workers	9.6	13.0	10.4	12.4	8.6	7.8
Salesmen	4.8	4.9	5.7	4.8	4.6	3.1
Clerks (except in stores)	1.6	2.7	1.5	2.5	1.3	1.2
Accountants, bookkeepers, cashiers	0.7	1.3	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.9
Insurance agents	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3
Other clerks, etc.	1.9	3.5	2.0	3.3	1.5	2.3
Skilled workers and foremen	16.0	17.4	15.7	16.1	14.6	10.2
Carpenters	4.7	3.2	4.7	3.0	4.2	1.8
Mechanics	2.6	2.2	3.0	2.1	2.4	1.5
Foremen	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.0
Painters (building)	1.2	1.0	1.5	0.9	1.1	0.5
Engineers (stationary)	0.6	1.2	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.4
Machinists	0.6	1.3	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.7
Electricians	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.5
Plumbers, steam fitters	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3
Sawyers	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.3
Other skilled workers	3.3	5.1	2.8	4.9	3.3	3.2
Semi-skilled workers	16.6	13.7	17.7	11.7	12.1	6.3
Operatives (mfg and mech industries)	6.9	4.7	7.8	4.0	3.4	1.8
Chauffeurs, truck and tractor drivers	2.8	2.7	3.5	2.6	3.2	1.5
Barbers	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.6
Soldiers, sailors and marines	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	---
Other semi-skilled workers	5.4	4.7	5.5	4.3	5.0	2.4

Occupation and Group	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
All classes 2/	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Physicians and surgeons	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Other professional occupations	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Proprietors, managers, officials	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Retail dealers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Managers and officials	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farmers and farm managers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farmers and farm managers (white)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farmers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farm managers, tenants, etc.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clerks and kindred workers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Salesmen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clerks (except in stores)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Craftsmen and foremen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Other skilled, etc.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Skilled workers in industry	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Carpenters	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Masons	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Painters (painting)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Plasterers (plastering)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Plumbers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Electricians	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Plumbers, steam fitters	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tailors	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Other skilled workers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Operatives (only and semi-skilled)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chauffeurs, teamsters and teamsters	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Salesmen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Laborers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Railroad, express, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Table 11a-Continued. (Page 2 of 2 pages)

Occupation and Group	Washington		Oregon		Idaho	
	Migration Survey	1930 Census	Migration Survey	1930 Census	Migration Survey	1930 Census
Unskilled workers	26.5	23.8	20.7	22.1	21.9	19.4
W.P.A. laborers	12.2	----	5.3	----	8.6	----
Lumbermen, woodchoppers	3.3	4.4	5.4	4.5	2.2	3.3
Operatives, extraction of minerals	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.6	3.2	3.8
Janitors	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6
Cooks	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.6
Fishermen and oystermen	0.5	1.0	0.2	0.6	----	----
Other unskilled workers	8.5	15.7	7.8	14.8	6.9	11.1
Farmers and farm laborers	18.4	18.2	22.0	23.7	29.9	45.4

a/ Excludes unknown, unemployed and "other cases".

Table [illegible]—Continued. (Page 2 of 2 pages)

Occupation and Group	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]	
	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]	
	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]	
Operatives and kindred workers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total, Laborers	[illegible]	----	[illegible]	----	[illegible]	----	[illegible]	----
Laborers, construction	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Longshoremen, stevedores, and deckhands	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Teamsters	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fishermen and oystermen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	----
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Farmers and farm managers	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

a/ Including managers, proprietors and "other" workers.

cooperate in the study.

In Washington and Oregon agricultural workers were relatively about as numerous in the survey group as in the population. The farm groups in the survey samples from all three states were, however, possibly somewhat smaller than they should have been because of two factors. First, the data were collected in the spring when demand for farm labor was at a seasonal low. This should not, however, affect comparability with the census data, which were also collected in the spring. The second point is that many of the newcomers, especially in the cut-over areas, were part-time farmers and it is possible that a number of them may have been reported by their children as doing some type of non-agricultural work, while under the census definition they would have been classified as farmers.

Certain of the non-agricultural occupations were relatively larger in the survey sample than in the resident population. There were relatively 3 to 5 times as many clergymen in the survey group. "U. S. officials and inspectors," which include Army and Navy officers, were also considerably over-represented. Salesmen, carpenters, mechanics, foremen, painters, manufacturing operatives and truck drivers were occupations more frequently found in the survey sample than in the population.

The process of adaptation of the newcomers to the occupational demands of their new environment involved a considerable amount of shifting from one occupation to another. The number working in agriculture in 1939 was considerably less than the number reported to have been formerly in agriculture (Figure 6b). The unskilled

[illegible] in the study.

In Washington and Oregon agricultural workers were relatively about as numerous in the survey groups as in the population. The low proportion in the survey samples from all three states were, however, probably somewhat smaller than they should have been because of too [illegible]

The [illegible] were at a seasonal low. This should not, however, affect comparability with the census data, which were also collected in the spring. The second point is that many of the newcomers, especially in the up-over areas, were part-time farmers and it is possible that a number of them may have been reported by their enumerators as doing some type of non-agricultural work, while under the census definition they would have been classified as farmers.

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The process of adaptation of the newcomers to the occupational demands of their new environment involved a considerable amount of mobility from one occupation to another. The number working in agriculture in 1949 was considerably less than the number reported to have been formerly in agriculture (Figure 6b). The unskilled

labor group, in which W. P. A. was an important source of employment after the migration, was larger in 1939 than before the migration. The other groups were of approximately the same size in 1939 as before the migration. It is not to be concluded from this, however, that all of the members of these groups were able to find employment at their usual occupations. There was a great deal of shifting about between all groups, the greatest amount taking place between the unskilled labor and farm groups. Table 12 shows the percentage of members of each former occupational group that were employed in the same group in 1939. Less than half of the former farmers and farm laborers were employed in agriculture in 1939, while, at the other end of the scale, nearly three-quarters of the former professional group were in the same group in 1939.

The success of the migrants in making occupational adjustments according to former skills depended, in part, upon their place of origin. Heads of families who moved about within the Northwest region might be expected to migrate in response to known work opportunities, in many instances, while those newcomers from more distant parts would, in the majority of cases, migrate because of expulsive forces in the areas from which they came, rather than attractive forces in the areas of final settlement. Table 12 shows that a significantly larger proportion of the intra-regional migrants obtained employment in their usual occupations than did the inter-regional migrants.

The urban-rural distribution of the occupational groups is shown in Tables 13 and 13a. Except for the agricultural group,

[illegible] group, in which N. P. A. was an important source of employment, [illegible] migration, was larger in 1929 than before the migration. [illegible] other groups were of approximately the same size in 1929 as before the migration. It is not to be concluded from this, however, that [illegible] of the members of these groups were able to find employment in their usual occupations. There was a great deal of shifting about in between all groups, the greatest amount taking place between the [illegible] and farm groups. Table 12 shows the percentage of members of each former occupational group that were employed in the same group in 1929. Less than half of the former farmers and farm laborers had employed in agriculture in 1929, while, at the other end of the scale, nearly three-quarters of the former professional group were in the same group in 1929.

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The week-end distribution of the occupational groups is shown in Tables 13 and 13a. Exc pt for the agricultural group,

Table - 12 - Percentage of the male family heads of each former occupational group whose 1939 occupation was in the same group.

Occupational Group	Percent by Origin		
	Pacific N. W.	Other than Pacific Coast	All Regions*
Professional	71.1	68.4	73
Owners, managers, officials	60.8	48.2	58
Clerks, etc.	66.6	52.2	61
Skilled workers	63.1	56.0	60
Semi-skilled workers	50.8	39.1	46
Unskilled workers	49.7	46.7	50
Farmers and farm laborers	50.0	40.4	45

* Includes California

Table 13a-Percentage distribution of families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey, by residence classification, by former occupational groups and by 1939 occupational groups.

Occupational Groups	Residence Classification				
	All Classes	Cities over 100,000	Cities 10,000 to 100,000	Cities 2,500 to 10,000	Rural Areas
All Groups	100.0	17.8	14.0	17.4	50.8
Former occupational group					
Professional	100.0	30.5	19.2	19.5	30.8
Owners, etc.	100.0	29.2	18.6	18.7	33.5
Clerks	100.0	36.1	18.6	16.3	29.0
Skilled workers	100.0	18.5	15.9	19.1	44.5
Semi-skilled workers	100.0	18.1	15.9	17.7	48.3
Unskilled workers	100.0	11.9	11.7	16.7	58.7
Farmers and farm laborers	100.0	5.3	8.0	16.5	70.2
1939 occupational group					
Professional	100.0	33.4	19.0	19.6	28.0
Owners, etc.	100.0	30.0	20.5	19.2	30.3
Clerks, etc.	100.0	40.5	20.2	16.5	22.8
Skilled workers	100.0	19.7	17.8	21.9	40.6
Semi-skilled workers	100.0	19.5	17.8	20.0	42.7
Unskilled workers	100.0	10.8	11.8	15.8	61.6
Farmers and farm laborers	100.0	1.3	3.5	12.6	82.6
Unemployed	100.0	12.7	11.1	16.0	60.2

the urban-rural distribution is about the same for any group, whether the cases are classified on the basis of 1939 occupation, or former occupation.

In reply to the question, "What kind of work is your father doing right now?" some of the children reported their fathers to be on W. P. A. or as "not working." The "not working" replies cannot be used as a measure of unemployment for the group as a whole, because a direct question on unemployment was not asked and an indication of the length of the period of unemployment is required for an appraisal. Also, it is probable that some children whose fathers were working on W. P. A. jobs failed to note the fact, because they were not asked directly whether they were on W. P. A. However, a sufficient number of these replies were received to warrant some internal comparisons, and it is probably safe to regard the number reported on W. P. A. as a minimum figure.

Of the heads of families enumerated, 2,659 were reported to be not working when the survey was made and 3,502 were on W. P. A. Table 14 gives the distribution of these cases by states. The relatively high percentage of W. P. A. cases in Washington and the low percentage in Oregon are noteworthy. Of the three states, Oregon showed the highest percentage of unemployment, probably because so few managed to get on the W. P. A. rolls. In March, April, and May of 1939, when the survey data were being collected, the average number on the W. P. A. rolls was approximately 41,000 in Washington, 17,000 in Oregon, and 10,600 in Idaho.1/ These

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1/ Statistical Bulletin, W. P. A. Division of Statistics, Issues for April to June, 1939.

Table 14-Male heads of families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey who were unemployed or in W.P.A. in 1939, by states.

State of residence in 1939	W. P. A.		Unemployed	
	No.	%	No.	% a/
Northwest total	3502	7.8	2659	5.9
Washington	2124	11.2	1031	5.4
Oregon	820	4.5	1374	7.1
Idaho	558	8.2	254	3.7

a/ Percent of total cases enumerated in state.

Table 15 - Male heads of families enumerated in the Northwest migration survey who were unemployed or on W.P.A. in 1939, by former occupational groups.

Former Occupational Group	W.P.A.		Unemployed	
	Number	Percent of occupational group	Number	Percent of occupational group
All groups	3,502	7.8	2,659	5.9
Professionals	25	1.4	44	2.4
Owners, managers, officials	66	2.2	120	4.1
Clerks and kindred workers	99	2.9	121	3.5
Skilled workers and foremen	367	6.4	325	5.6
Semi-skilled workers	464	8.0	343	5.9
Unskilled workers (except farm laborers)	805	15.0	538	10.0
Farmers and farm laborers	1,313	10.8	890	7.3
Unknown	363	6.1	278	4.7

Table 15-a - FAMILIES ENUMERATED IN THE NORTHWEST MIGRATION SURVEY *
REPORTED AS UNEMPLOYED OR ON W.P.A. IN 1939
BY FORMER OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

	W. P. A.						UNEMPLOYED					
	Other Than Pacific Coast			Pacific N.W. Region			Other Than Pacific Coast			Pacific N.W. Region		
	Number	Percent of total	Percent of occ. gr.	Number	Percent of total	Percent of occ.gr.	Number	Percent of total	Percent of occ. gr.	Number	Percent of total	Percent of occ.gr.
Total Groups	2386	-	-	456	-	-	1779	-	-	472	-	-
Known Occ.	2180	100	10.0	379	100	4.5	1628	100	7.5	402	100	4.8
Professional	10	0.5	1.0	8	2.1	1.7	23	1.4	2.3	10	2.5	2.2
Owners, Managers, Officials	37	1.7	2.5	8	2.1	1.0	71	4.4	4.7	34	8.5	4.2
Clerks and Kindred Workers	60	2.7	3.5	9	2.4	0.9	72	4.4	3.5	28	7.0	2.7
Skilled Workers and Foreman	194	8.9	5.9	43	11.3	3.3	209	12.8	5.9	58	14.4	4.5
Semi-skilled Workers	268	12.3	9.1	83	21.9	4.9	200	12.3	6.8	73	18.1	4.3
Underskilled (except farm laborers)	545	25.0	18.0	130	34.3	9.1	318	19.5	10.5	22	30.6	8.6
Farmers and Farm Laborers	1066	48.9	11.2	98	25.9	5.8	735	45.2	7.8	76	18.9	4.5
Unknown	206	-	-	77	-	-	151	-	-	70	-	-

* Less families whose states of origin were Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California

figures represent approximately 6 percent, 4 percent, and 6.5 percent, respectively, of the working population of these states, including both men and women. Evidently one reason for the lower proportion of the survey cases on W. P. A. in Oregon was that W. P. A. jobs were not as plentiful in that state.1/

Former unskilled and agricultural workers were the two groups that contributed most, both absolutely and relatively, to the W. P. A. and unemployed classes (Table 15). About 18 percent of the agricultural group and 25 percent of the unskilled, as compared to 10 percent of other groups, were reported to be on W. P. A. or unemployed in 1939.

The occupational groups having the greatest preponderence among those on W. P. A. and unemployed is shown by Table 15-a. Here the migrants on W. P. A. and unemployed are broken down by 1930 origin. Those families who came from other areas than the Pacific States show farmers and farm laborers as the largest single group both on W. P. A. and unemployed. The intra-regional migrants, however, have the unskilled laborers as the largest group. In addition, the migrants on W. P. A. and unemployed among those whose states of 1930 origin were Washington, Oregon, or Idaho show a larger proportion of their number as belonging to the higher occupational brackets. The migrants who originated within the Northwest region show a much better adjustment than do the others, as only 4.5 percent of those of no occupation were on W. P. A. as contrasted

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1/ Since eligibility for relief is a prerequisite for W. P. A. work, the differences in the residence requirements in the three states must be considered as factors affecting the relative number on W. P. A., as well as administrative policies.

with 10.0 percent for those arriving from areas outside the Pacific Coast. Likewise only 4.8 percent were unemployed as against 7.5 percent of the out-region migrants.

A breakdown of the unemployed and W. P. A. cases by year of arrival in the state shows a slightly higher proportion among the 1934 to 1937 arrivals (Table 16). This is a reflection of the greater number of agricultural workers arriving in these years. The 1938 arrivals had the highest proportion unemployed in 1939, but only a few of these late-comers were on W. P. A., probably because of the requirement of a year's residence before certification for work.

As measured by the proportion unemployed and on W. P. A., the unskilled labor and agricultural groups have been the least successful in establishing themselves in their new economic environment. Public policies for relieving distress and aiding in the absorption of newcomers into the economic life of the community should, therefore, be directed largely toward the needs of these groups.

VII. THE MIGRATION TO THE NORTHWEST: SUMMARY

The statistics presented in the preceding sections delineate an outline picture of the migration to the Northwest in the 1930's. In volume the movement was little, if any, greater than the migration of the preceding decade. It was much smaller, relative to the size of the resident population, than the migrations of the years before 1910, when the regional economy, led by the lumber industry, was expanding rapidly. The trek to the Northwest in the 30's was a continuation of an historic movement. It was not a new phenomenon, nor an old one greatly intensified.

In addition to the westward movement, there was a relatively large, continuous interchange of population between the Pacific Coast States, and an eastward backflow of unknown proportions. While the actual number of people moving out of the Northwest after 1929 is not known, the evidence of the California survey and the outward movement between 1920 and 1930 point to a loss of considerable amount, but of less volume than the gain from inward migration. The low birth rates in Oregon and Washington and the constant exodus of citizens from the Northwest suggest strongly that drying up the incoming stream of migration would be likely to start a downward spiral of population shrinkage and economic decay.

The great majority of the newcomers ceased to be "migrants" shortly after reaching their new homes. Most of them had made only

one move from their 1930 residence to the place of settlement. Few of these people appear to have drifted aimlessly from place to place before settling in the Northwest. Data from field studies agree with the survey on this point. Contrary to popular impressions, the migration was not a drifting hither and yon of a horde of wanderers, perhaps hoping to find by trial and error a suitable place to settle. It was, in the main, a direct, purposeful move to a place which promised better living. In this connection, it should be pointed out that the use of the word "migrant" to describe two essentially different groups of people has led to some confusion. Most discussions of the "migrant problem" have centered around the plight of agricultural laborers and transients who habitually move about from one short job to another. The other kind of migrant is, by definition, an individual who has moved across specified political boundaries, usually state lines, within a stated period. This definition usually includes most of the transients, but it also includes many people who are not, and never were, habitual migratory workers. A very large majority of the families studied in this survey were not the migratory worker type.

If the total inward migration after 1929 had been spread uniformly throughout the 9 years, the difficulties attending the movement would probably have been less acute. The large influx from the Great Plains in 1935 to 1937, of which the droughts of 1934 and 1936 were most likely the immediate cause, made assimilation of the newcomers and the task of providing relief for the destitute particularly difficult in these years. By 1938 the

surge of people from the Great Plains had subsided, and the migration of that year showed evidence of a return to more normal characteristics.

The more populous areas of the Northwest attracted the most newcomers. Certain areas, however, received more than their share and others received less. Because of the large proportion of farm families in the incoming group, roughly a third of the total, the impact of the migration was somewhat greater in rural areas than in the cities. The areas of irrigated farming, especially the Yakima Valley, the lower Snake River Valley in Idaho, and Malheur County, Oregon, attracted relatively large numbers, as did also western Oregon and the three northern counties of Idaho. Relatively very few settled in the dry farming and range livestock areas east of the Cascades.

The people who moved to the Northwest were from all occupational classes, and the various classes were almost proportionately represented in the migrant group from each region. Because a large proportion came from agricultural areas, especially at the peak of the movement in 1936 and 1937, the number of farm workers was so great that all could not find suitable farms or farm labor jobs in the Northwest. This meant that many had to shift to other occupations or apply for assistance. W. P. A. provided employment for some, but the requirement of a year's residence before certification banned many newcomers from W. P. A. jobs. Those who had been unskilled laborers also had difficulty in getting

work. Skilled workers and the white collar classes fared much better, as was to be expected.

It is not within the province of this report to recommend programs for dealing with the migrant problem,1/ but the facts suggest that the solution of the difficulties will be found to lie not in a diminution of the stream of incoming people, but in the further development of resources and new opportunities for employment. If left to itself, the stream of westward migration, which has been flowing for decades, will probably continue to flow for some time with fluctuations of varying intensity as conditions change. Attempts to restrict the free flow of migration would not only be a reversal of the traditional idea that Americans are free to seek opportunity wherever it may be found, but in the long run would probably damage the Northwest itself by choking off a needed supply of new blood.

The difficulties attending the migration to the West Coast during the 1930's were manifestations of general economic depression, and were not simply the result of an unheard of influx of wanderers into prosperous communities. The attack should therefore be on unemployment and not on migration. Fundamentally, the need of the migrants is the same as the need of the resident population - opportunities to earn a living. Except for a temporary lack of "legal residence" status, the newcomer is on the same footing as the resident and both should participate in the benefits of any program that is devised. There is no need to distinguish between them.

1/ Recommendations will be presented in the final report of the larger study

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

APPENDIX "A"

SURVEY METHODS AND DEFINITIONS

The data for the survey were obtained from questionnaires filled out by public school children belonging to families that had moved into the state after 1929. Copy of the questionnaire used, marked "Sample Standard Questionnaire" is shown at the end of this appendix. Since the questionnaire was designed to be answered by children with a minimum of instructions, it was necessary to keep it very simple. Detailed questions concerning individual members of the household, their relationship, previous residences, time of migration, etc., were therefore omitted, although such information would be highly desirable for accuracy of definition and description of the migrant group. For this reason each family is considered as a unit in setting up the statistics, although some members of the family (e.g. stepfather) may not have been "migrants."

The procedure in distributing the questionnaire blanks was as follows: First, a letter was written to the county school superintendents requesting their cooperation in the survey and asking that they sign prepared letters of instruction addressed to the principals of all schools in their counties. The principals were asked to have the teachers in their schools distribute the questionnaires to all children whose parents had come into the state after 1929. The teachers were requested to check the childrens'

replies and indicate the school district number on the questionnaires. The completed questionnaires were then mailed back to the survey office in Portland. Enclosed with the letter to each principal was a form which was to be returned in case there were no children in the school who came within the scope of the survey.

The first step in handling the returned questionnaires was to sort them alphabetically and tie together the replies of brothers and sisters. In this process the returns for "complete families," i.e. those families for which returns were received from all children reported to be attending school, were picked out and turned over to the code clerks. The sorting was first done by school districts, then the "incompletes" from the school district sorts were placed together and resorted by counties, thus assembling the replies of brothers and sisters who attended school in different districts within counties. The "incompletes" were held until the schools closed, after which time no more replies could be expected. Several checks of the "incompletes" in adjacent counties were made to pick up cases in which the children crossed county lines to attend school, but no such cases were found; hence, it was not considered necessary to make a sort on a statewide basis to assemble replies from brothers and sisters attending school in different counties. The remaining "incompletes" were then released for coding.

The data for each family were punched on a single card. In coding the data, the replies from all children were consulted. Frequently the information on one questionnaire was incomplete,

but could be supplemented by that given by other children in the family. If there was a conflict between the various returns the reply of the majority of the children was followed, but if there was no majority, the reply of the oldest child was used.

Following are definitions and descriptions of the methods used in determining the principal statistical items.

Families included: Families eligible for inclusion in the survey were those who had moved into the state after 1929 and had children enrolled in the public schools at the time of the survey. Families that were living in the state on January 1, 1930, but who moved out and in again afterward were included, unless the period of residence outside of the state was less than six months. Returns indicating that the responding child was not living with his family were rejected. Cases in which all of the responding children were born in the state and there was no residence reported in other states were rejected. This procedure was necessary in order to insure that all non-eligible families were excluded, but it probably caused some families who moved into the state in 1930 to 1932 to be omitted. (Children of families moving in after 1932 would have been born outside of the state or would have been too young to attend school in the spring of 1939.) It is believed, however, that such cases were relatively few in number.

Residence: A family was not considered to have lived in a state (other than the one in which it was living at the time of the survey) unless the period of residence was six months or more.

This definition was observed in determining "1930 residence," "last residence," and number of interstate moves.

1930 Residence: Residence on January 1, 1930 was determined from the date of birth, length of residence reported in each state, and date of entry into the state the child was living in at the time of the survey. If the oldest responding child in the family was born after January 1, 1930, this child's birthplace was taken to be the 1930 residence of the family. In those cases in which two or more states (other than state of birth) were listed in reply to Question 2, it was not always possible to determine 1930 residence, because the chronological order of the states was uncertain. In many such cases, however, the year and place of birth of one of the responding children established the answer.

Last Residence: The state in which the family lived just before moving into the state it was in at the time of the survey. Last residence could not be determined in those cases in which the chronological order of the states listed in reply to Question 2 was uncertain.

Number of Interstate Moves since January 1, 1930: The number of interstate moves was one less than the number of states lived in (according to the six months' residence definition) between January 1, 1930 and the time of the survey. Every family included must have made at least one interstate move in this period.

Residence Classification: The school districts from which returns were received were classified according to the population

(1930 Census) of the largest city or town in the district. The classifications were (1) Cities over 100,000 population.
(2) Cities of 10,000 to 100,000 population.
(3) Cities of 2,500 to 10,000 population.
(4) Rural areas; all districts containing no city over 2,500 population.

The families were allocated to the school district of the youngest responding child. Since the urban school districts in most cases included areas outside of the city limits, many families actually living in rural areas are classified as urban. Thus, the "residence classification" used here is not strictly comparable with the Census.

Occupations: "1939 occupations" were classified from the replies to the question, "what kind of work does your father do right now?" "Former occupations" were classified from the replies to the question, "what kind of work did he do before he came to Washington (Oregon, Idaho)?" In order to make the occupational classifications comparable with the Census, the Census code book, "Alphabetical Index of Occupations, Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930," was used. Occupations were grouped according to the system described by Alba M. Edwards in, "A Social-Economic Grouping of the Gainful Workers of the United States," and the group code symbols were taken from the "Alphabetical Index of Occupations by Industries and Social-Economic Groups" (Bureau of Census, 1937). A special group symbol was used to designate the unemployed. Another special group symbol was used for certain families which are classified in the occupational tables as "other

cases." In former occupational group tables, "other cases" include those in which (1) father was reported to have died before family came to the state,
(2) father was reported to be not living in the state in 1939,
(3) head was reported to be a stepfather or guardian who had lived in the state since before 1930,
(4) father was reported to have been a student, disabled, or retired before entering state.

In 1939 occupational group tables, "other cases" include those in which (1) father was reported to be dead in 1939,
(2) same as (2) above,
(3) same as (3) above,
(4) father was reported to be a student, disabled or retired in 1939.

There were two departures from the standard procedure outlined above that should be mentioned. The initial questionnaire, which was used in several Oregon counties, did not include several questions which were later incorporated to form the standard questionnaire used throughout the rest of the survey. A copy of this questionnaire, marked "Sample Initial Questionaire," appears at the end of this Appendix. The omitted questions concerned the length of time lived in various states, counties of residence in other states, whether brothers and sisters were living at home, and number of brothers and sisters attending school. For approximately 25 percent of these cases the 1930 residence and last residence could not be determined. In tying together replies of brothers and sisters, these cases were treated as "incompletes," since the number attending school was not reported. Information on about one-quarter of the families enumerated in Oregon was

cases." In former occupational group tables, "other cases" include those in which (1) father was reported to have died before family came to the state,
(2) father was reported to be not living in the state in 1929,
(3) head was reported to be a stepfather or guardian who had lived in the state since before 1920,
(4) father was reported to have been a student, disabled, or retired before entering state.

In 1929 occupational group tables, "other cases" include those in which (1) father was reported to be dead in 1929,
(2) same as (2) above,
(3) same as (3) above,
(4) father was reported to be a student, disabled or retired in 1929.

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